



Tale of The Tape

Trump was recorded talking of paying Playboy model

In this April 26, 2018 file photo, Michael Cohen leaves federal court in New York. President Donald Trump's former personal lawyer secretly recorded Trump discussing payments to a former Playboy model who said she had an affair with him, The New York Times reported Friday, July 20.

Associated Press
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Home demolitions may create new problem: lead-tainted dust

By **COREY WILLIAMS and MIKE HOUSEHOLDER**

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — The nation's largest home-demolition program, which has torn down more than 14,000 vacant houses across Detroit, may have inadvertently created a new problem by spreading lead-contaminated dust through some of the city's many hollowed-out neighborhoods.

Health officials are concerned that crushing walls covered with lead paint generates dust that can settle on nearby homes or drift through open windows, endangering families who have stayed long after their neighbors fled during Detroit's long decline.

Because the risk of lead exposure is especially worrisome for children, Detroit Health Department teams plan to go door-to-door next week in some neighborhoods to seek out potential hazards and do in-home testing of children.

"We're kind of throwing the kitchen sink at it a little bit," said Health Director Dr. Jo-neigh S. Khaldun. Since the problem involves children, "we have to do everything we can" to ensure the demolition program "is as safe as possible."

Health department data released last year showed elevated blood lead levels among children living in several areas where the dilapidated structures have been knocked down. The city has not determined if the demolitions caused



In this Thursday, April 19, 2018, photo, an excavator sits at the site of a house demolition in Detroit.

Associated Press

the increase, but officials curtailed some of the work until the onset of colder weather, when windows are more likely to be closed and children less likely to be outdoors.

The at-risk neighborhoods include some of the poorest parts of Detroit, which has one of the highest poverty levels in the U.S.

Lead paint has long been the primary cause of lead poisoning in the city, where most homes were built well before 1978, when lead paint was outlawed. But the mass demolitions started only a few years ago.

A 2014 survey found more than 70,000 vacant houses, many of them relicts of the mass exodus from the city that began in the 1950s. Since then, Detroit's popu-

lation has plummeted from about 1.8 million to 670,000. As they decayed, the empty homes became havens for squatters, drug users and criminals.

Tamara Rollins lives on the east side in an area bordering one of the five most affected zip codes. When she moved into her rental home, demolition crews were rolling through the neighborhood.

Rollins is conflicted. She has a 3-year-old son who needs to be protected from lead, but being safe from crime trumps that concern.

"A lot of stuff happens in vacant houses," Rollins said while holding her son. "It also makes the property value go down, and it makes the neighborhoods look bad."

Detroit is not alone in trying to safely raze unoccupied homes. Baltimore has torn down about 2,700 vacant buildings since 2010. Detroit's program is larger and has been awarded more than \$250 million from the federal government for blight elimination.

Over the past 20 years, the number of Detroit children with elevated blood lead levels has dropped by nearly 90 percent, according to the city. But last year, state health officials released preliminary data suggesting that the percentage of children with elevated blood lead levels increased from 7.5 percent in 2015 to 8.8 percent the next year.

Even at low levels, lead exposure can cause reduced

intelligence, impaired hearing and irritability in infants and young children. They are most often exposed by eating paint chips or coming in contact with contaminated dust or soil.

Living within 400 feet of a demolition site increased the odds of elevated lead in children 6 years old and younger by 20 percent during summer months, the health department study found. Demolitions may be to blame for about 2.4 percent of cases involving elevated lead in the blood, according to the study of about 50,000 children between 2014 and 2016. The research did not establish the precise source of the lead.

"We're not sure if dust is getting into the home next door or if children are playing in it," Khaldun said.

For families in affected areas, the city offers educational materials, home visits with a nurse and other services. If lead-based paint or other hazards are found in the homes, officials work with families to get them removed, Khaldun said.

Other cities and states are grappling with similar lead issues. Ohio's health department created a list last year of homes that have serious lead paint problems. The database included homes and apartments that were ordered vacated after their owners refused to clean up lead paint. Children who had lived in the homes tested positive for high lead levels. □

Judge: 'Great progress' reuniting families split at border

By **ELLIOT SPAGAT**

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A federal judge on Friday applauded Trump administration efforts to meet a deadline to reunite more than 2,500 children with their families after they were separated at the border.

Justice Department attorneys said in federal court in San Diego that 450 children 5 and older had been reunified, up from

364 a day earlier.

"I'm just very impressed with the effort that has been made," U.S. District Judge Dana Sabraw said. "It really does appear that great progress has been made." Hundreds of children are still awaiting reunions with their family.

In a court filing Thursday, the administration said about 1,600 parents were believed to be eligible for reunification and about 900 were not eligible or

"not yet known to be eligible."

Nearly 700 of the ineligible parents are being vetted. Another 91 have been found to have a "prohibitive criminal record" or been deemed ineligible by U.S. Immigration and Customs and Enforcement.

Another 136 waived reunification, according to the Justice Department.

It appeared unlikely that all the children would be

reunified by the July 26 deadline. More than 200 parents have been released into the U.S. and parents of an unknown number of children have been deported.

Friday's hearing was the sixth in three weeks and two more are scheduled next week, a sign of how closely the judge is monitoring the process.

His praise for the administration was a sharp turnaround from last week,

when he said he was having second thoughts about whether the government was acting in good faith. The government submitted a revised reunification plan two days later that was well received by the judge.

In late June, Sabraw set deadlines of July 10 to reunify dozens of children under 5 with their families and July 26 for reunifications involving 2,551 children 5 and older. □

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Trump was taped talking of paying for Playboy model's story

By ERIC TUCKER and JENNI-FER PELTZ

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — President Donald Trump's former personal lawyer secretly recorded Trump discussing a potential payment for a former Playboy model's account of having an affair with him, people familiar with an investigation into the attorney said Friday.

The payment was never made, according to Trump attorney Rudy Giuliani, who confirmed the recording and said it shows Trump did nothing wrong.

Former Trump lawyer Michael Cohen surreptitiously made the recording two months before Trump's 2016 election, according to a person familiar with a federal investigation into Cohen that brought the tape to light. The FBI now has it, according to the person, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity to discuss the ongoing inquiry.

The conversation between Trump and Cohen came weeks after the National Enquirer's parent company reached a \$150,000 deal to pay ex-Playmate Karen McDougal for her story of a 2006 affair, which it never published — a tabloid practice known as "catch and kill." Trump denies the affair ever happened.

The company, American Media Inc., is run by Trump friend and supporter David Pecker.

The company's payment effectively silenced McDougal through the election, though days beforehand, news of the deal emerged in The Wall Street Journal. At the time, a Trump spokeswoman said

his campaign had "no knowledge of any of this."

But in the recorded conversation, he and Cohen appear to be discussing purchasing the rights to McDougal's story from the Enquirer's parent company, according to the person familiar with the investigation. Giuliani told the AP on Friday that the conversation between the two men was very brief.

"The transaction that Michael is talking about on the tape never took place, but what's important is: If it did take place, the president said it has to be done correctly and it has to be done by check" to keep a proper record of it, Giuliani said.

Cohen, his lawyers, McDougal's lawyer and an American Media Inc. spokesman didn't immediately respond to messages. Cohen lawyer Lanny Davis declined to comment to The New York Times, which first reported on the recording.

The development will likely revive questions about what other recordings of Trump's conversations might exist. As a businessman, Trump himself occasionally recorded his phone calls, a former Trump Organization executive told the AP last year, although Trump once denied doing so.

The FBI raided Cohen's office, home and hotel room in April amid an investigation into his business dealings, including any information on payments to McDougal. Meanwhile, a government watchdog group has asked the Justice Department and the Federal Election Commission to investigate whether

AMI's payment to the former centerfold amounted to an unreported and illegal corporate campaign contribution.

The Cohen investigation, by federal prosecutors in New York, is separate from an ongoing inquiry by special counsel Robert Mueller into potential coordination between the Trump campaign and Russia.

Cohen hasn't been charged with any crime.

A self-described fixer for Trump for more than a decade, he said last year he would "take a bullet" for Trump. But he told an interviewer earlier this month that he now puts "family and country first" and won't



In this April 11, 2018, file photo, Michael Cohen, President Donald Trump's former attorney, walks along a sidewalk in New York.

Associated Press

let anyone paint him as "a villain of this story." On Twitter, he scrubbed mentions and photos of Trump from a profile that previously identified him as "Personal attorney to President Donald J. Trump."

He wouldn't say in the recent interview whether he would cooperate with prosecutors. If he decided to do so, it could be risky for the president, given the pair's close relationship over the years. □

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TROP ADVANTAGE

Democrats find not-so-secret weapon in Trump controversies

By LISA LERER

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — As Democratic congressional candidate Abigail Spanberger mingled Wednesday night with supporters at a Richmond brewery, one person hung like a shadow over the gleaming brew tanks and grilled food truck pizza.

As they watched their kids play with Legos in the corner of the bar, Kristen Martin and William Caulder grumbled about President Donald Trump's latest scandal, a controversial news conference with Russia's president. Liberal activists made their way through the crowd, recruiting people to attend a Russia-themed protest later that night outside the office of Republican Rep. Dave Brat, the district's current congressman. When Spanberger stood at the front of the room to answer questions, Melissa Dart, a Democratic voter, sought a response to the "uniquely sobering" events in Helsinki. "This week has been a really difficult-to-watch week," Spanberger replied, saying Americans must accept that Russia interfered in the U.S. elections. "From an intelligence perspective and from a national security perspective, the concern that I have is: What are they going to interfere with next?"

Another difficult week for Trump is a good week for Spanberger, one of dozens of Democrats running strong in Republican territory thanks, in part, to the president. While Republicans grappled with how to respond to Trump's performance in Helsinki, Democrats' path was clear. Across the country, Trump's ability to constant court controversy is providing weekly shots of adrenaline to already-energized Democratic voters.

This week's developments were tailor-made for Spanberger, a 38-year-old former CIA operative equally comfortable discussing undercover anti-terrorism operations and the work of Parent Teacher Associa-



Former CIA officer and Democratic candidate for the 7th district Congressional seat, Abigail Spanberger, center, speaks to supporters at a rally in Richmond, Va., Wednesday, July 18, 2018.

Associated Press

tions.

Still, even with Spanberger on the ticket, Democrats shouldn't have a serious chance in this district, which stretches from the suburbs west of Richmond to rural towns at the base of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Trump won the area by eight points in 2016 and Brat, famous for ousting House Majority Leader Eric Cantor four years ago, had a 15-point re-election victory.

But Democrats have a not-so-secret weapon: Trump. From suburban Virginia to southern California, the president has sparked a Democratic renaissance, prompting candidates, activists and voters to pour their outrage, money and time into local races across the country. After years of bashing the GOP establishment, Republican lawmakers and operatives say Brat is now begging for financial support from the national party.

Brat declined multiple interview requests.

Strategists from both parties agree that opposition to Trump alone isn't enough to win a congressional race. And Democrats and Republicans doubt the election will be decided by any singular action taken by Trump. While polling shows most Americans disagreed

with Trump's handling of his summit with Putin, opinions largely divided along party lines.

"The Russia stuff is going to be a footnote at the end of this," said Tom Davis, a former Virginia congressman who once headed the GOP's campaign committee. "There's so much happening and this is the crisis du jour."

Democrats see it slightly differently: Former Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe, a Democrat who's hosting a fundraiser for Virginia Democratic House candidates at his home this weekend, said the steady stream of controversy reminds Democrats why they need to show up at the polls.

"Every day is one more notch in the belt of people who think Trump is plain insane," he said. "This is going to be a big turnout year because of Trump."

Gretchen Metzroth, a soft-spoken 62-year-old, never considered herself particularly political. That changed in November 2016. Since then, she's joined a protest choir, and regularly writes letters, emails and calls Congress. "I can't even watch the news when the president is on because it just gets me so angry," she said, standing with protesters on a patch of grass in front of Brat's congressional

office. "But it also makes me want to do something."

Trump's win has helped Democrats recruit scores of first-time candidates, even in places the party typically loses. Some of those newly minted politicians are veterans and intelligence experts, which could help the party speak to national security issues that have often played to Republicans.

Like many of the new Democratic candidates, Spanberger was at least partially motivated to run by Trump's foreign policy, specifically his early push to pursue a ban on travel from predominantly Muslim countries. This week, Spanberger assailed Trump for his meeting with Putin. But typically, she says, she doesn't spend much time talking about foreign policy or the president. "What the president has done is he has created a level of uneasiness for many people," she says. "But I want people to vote for me. It's not enough to have people vote against Donald Trump."

The party has flocked to her candidacy. She raised \$1.35 million to Brat's \$1.34 million, though she spent the bulk of that to win the competitive primary leaving her with less in the bank than Brat. She's backed by top national and state officials and Democratic

groups like EMILY's List. Sen. Tim Kaine, a Richmond native who has a comfortable lead in his re-election race, and McAuliffe are eagerly helping Spanberger with joint campaign appearances, campaign dollars and organization support.

Spanberger has also courted the new activism flowing into the party. She's refused to take corporate PAC money and said she won't back House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, arguing the party needs new energy. Supporters in places like Goochland County are thrilled to see the Spanberger signs suddenly cropping up on their neighbors' lawns.

"I'm a Republican in recovery," said Linda Caldwell, a retiree proudly wearing a "Brat is the Worst" pin. "She is talking about solving problems. David Brat just talks about things that make people angry."

Despite such enthusiasm, Spanberger faces an uphill climb. Many Republican voters in the area like the president's agenda, even if they don't always agree with how he expresses it.

"It's his personality that has just thrown everybody because you expect your president to be calm and agreeable, but he's anything but," said Judy Tunstille, as she finished up her shopping at the Costco in Chesterfield, Virginia. "But he's getting things done."

Brat faces some unique challenges. He's failed to win back more establishment Republicans who supported Cantor. Some Republicans say he has little real organization and struggles to keep staff. His office has one of the highest turnover rates in the House, according to LegiStorm, a non-partisan website that tracks Capitol Hill's workforce. And some believe controversial Republican senate candidate Corey Stewart will depress turn-out statewide.

Unlike some Republican incumbents, who've stressed their independence from the president, Brat has remained one of Trump's strongest supporters. □

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Branson mourns for 17 killed in sinking of packed duck boat

By MARGARET STAFFORD

Associated Press

BRANSON, Mo. (AP) — The country-and-western tourist town of Branson, Missouri, mourned Friday for more than a dozen sightseers who were killed when a duck boat capsized and sank in stormy weather in the deadliest such accident in almost two decades.

Divers found four more bodies in Table Rock Lake, bringing the death toll to 17, including nine people from the same family and the crew member who was driving the amphibious boat. In their initial assessment, authorities blamed thunderstorms and winds that approached hurricane strength.

"Branson is a city full of smiles," Mayor Karen Best said. "We have so much fun here. But today we are grieving and crying."

Trisha Ayers was among the mourners who stopped to pay their respects at a parked car that was covered with flowers because it was believed to belong to a dead tourist.

Ayers said she understood how the boat got caught on the lake because the weather on Thursday evening changed in 10 minutes from sunshine to gale-force winds that bent traffic signs. "I hope it won't tarnish Branson," she said with tears in her eyes. "About 80 percent of our income comes from tourists. We love them."

The risk of heavy weather was apparent hours before the boat left shore.

The weather service station in Springfield, about 40

miles (64 kilometers) north of Branson, issued a severe thunderstorm watch for its immediate area Thursday, saying conditions were ripe for winds of 70 mph. It followed up at 6:32 p.m. with a severe thunderstorm warning for three counties that included Branson and the lake. The warning mentioned both locations. The boat went down about 40 minutes later, shortly after 7 p.m.

"When we issue a warning, it means take action," meteorologist Kelsey Angle said.

Suzanne Smagala with Ripley Entertainment, which owns Ride the Ducks in Branson, said the company was assisting authorities. She said this was the company's only accident in more than 40 years of operation.

Twenty-nine passengers and two crew members were aboard for a pleasure cruise. Seven of the 14 survivors were hurt when the vessel went down. At least two children and two adults were hospitalized. The captain survived, authorities said.

Brayden Malaske, of Harrah, Oklahoma, boarded a replica 19th-century paddle wheeler known as the Branson Belle on the same lake just before the storm hit.

At the time, he said, the water seemed calm, and no one was worried about the weather.

"But it suddenly got very dark," he recalled.

In a short video taken by Malaske from a dock, the duck boat can be seen



Ducks boat sits idle in the parking lot of Ride the Ducks, an amphibious tour operator in Branson, Mo. Friday, July 20, 2018.

Associated Press

wallowing through the choppy, wind-whipped lake, with water only inches from its windows. Dark, rolling waves crash over its front end. The footage ends before the boat capsizes.

Later, people on Malaske's boat saw a duck boat passenger "hanging on for dear life" to the paddle wheel of the Belle, he said. The mayor identified the crew member driving the boat as Bob Williams, known informally as "Captain Bob."

"He was at a great ambassador for Branson," Best said. "He was at every event. He knew everyone. He was always promoting Branson."

Authorities had not publicly identified the dead but said they included a 1-year-old child.

The nine family members who died were from Indianapolis, said Thomas Griffith, suffragan bishop of

Zion Tabernacle Apostolic Faith Church in Indianapolis. He did not name them. Two people from the family survived, a spokeswoman for Missouri Gov. Mike Parson said.

Named for their ability to travel on land and in water, duck boats have been involved in other serious accidents in the past, including the deaths of more than 40 people since 1999. Five college students were killed in 2015 in Seattle when a duck boat collided with a bus. Thirteen people died in 1999 when a boat sank near Hot Springs, Arkansas.

"Duck boats are death traps," said Andrew Duffy, an attorney whose Philadelphia law firm handled litigation related to two fatal duck boat accidents there.

"They're not fit for water or land because they are half car and half boat."

Safety advocates have sought improvements and

complained that too many agencies regulate the boats with varying safety requirements.

The boats were originally designed for the military, specifically to transport troops and supplies in World War II. They were later modified for use as sightseeing vehicles.

A full investigation was underway, with help from the Coast Guard and the National Transportation Safety Board. Stone County Sheriff Doug Rader urged anyone with video or photos of the accident to contact authorities.

Divers quickly located the vessel, which came to rest on its wheels on the lakebed. Authorities planned to recover it at some point in the next few days.

The boat sank in 40 feet (12 meters) of water and then rolled on its wheels into a deeper area with 80 feet (25 meters) of water. □

Iowa tornadoes hit unexpectedly, causing damage and injuries

By SCOTT MCFETRIDGE and DAVID PITT

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) —

Thousands of people were without power Friday after a flurry of unexpected tornadoes swept through central Iowa, injuring at least 17 people and flattening buildings in three cities.

The storms even surprised weather forecasters when they hit the region Thursday afternoon, causing extensive damage to a manufacturing plant and prompting the evacuation of a hospital.

In Marshalltown, where 10 people were injured, brick walls collapsed into the streets, roofs were blown off buildings and the cupola of the historic courthouse tumbled to the ground. Seven more people were hurt when a tornado hit a factory in Pella, though no deaths have been reported.

More than 5,800 customers remained without power in Marshalltown early Friday, and natural gas service has been shut down in part of the city, according to Alliant Energy. The utility said crews have been dispatched to repair damage and assess which areas can have gas service safely restored.

Forecasting models produced Thursday morning showed only a slight chance of strong thunderstorms later in the day, said Alex Krull, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Des Moines, said "It didn't look like tornadic supercells were possible," Krull said. "If anything, we were expecting we could get some large hail, if strong storms developed." Gov. Kim Reynolds and other officials were expected to visit damaged areas of Bondurant, Marshalltown



A local resident runs past a tornado-damaged building on Main Street, Thursday, July 19, 2018, in Marshalltown, Iowa.

Associated Press

and Pella on Friday. Marshalltown, a city of 27,000 people about 50 miles (80 kilometers) northeast of Des Moines, appeared to have been hit the hardest. The main hospital in Marshalltown was damaged and all 40 patients at UnityPoint Health were being transferred to the health system's larger hospital in Waterloo and one in Grundy Center, spokeswoman Amy Varcoe said. The emergency room in the smaller Marshalltown hospital remained open to treat patients, Varcoe said. Ten people hurt in the storm had been treated, she said. Stephanie Moz said she, her husband and 2-month-old baby were in the downtown Marshalltown clothing store she owns when tornado sirens went off. She said the family sought shelter in the building's basement and heard "cracking and booms and explosions" as the tornado passed. The storm broke out a window, ruining clothing and hats on display there, and

destroyed her husband's vehicle. But she said she's relieved.

"We went through a tornado and survived," Moz said. "I'm happy."

Some buildings at the Iowa

Veterans Home in Marshalltown sustained roof damage, but no residents or staffers were injured at the facility that houses nearly 500 people, according to Timon Oujiri, the facility's

commandant. He said the facility lost power but was chugging along Friday on generators. On Thursday, National Weather Service meteorologist Rod Donovan said two primary storms spawned the series of tornadoes. One developed in the Marshalltown area, while the other started east of Des Moines and traveled through Bondurant and into Pella, about 40 miles (64 kilometers) southeast of Des Moines. The tornado in Pella hit the agricultural machinery maker Vermeer Manufacturing, scattering huge sheets of metal through a parking lot and leaving one building with a gaping hole. People were still working at the plant at the time. Seven people injured at the plant were taken to Pella Regional Health Center, hospital spokeswoman Billie Rhamy said. They all were released after being treated for their minor injuries, Rhamy said. □

Puerto Rican evacuees get another extension on housing

By MIKE SCHNEIDER
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Hundreds of Hurricane Maria evacuees from Puerto Rico who are living in hotels around the nation have been given more weeks to use temporary housing vouchers, after a federal judge extended a temporary restraining order. U.S. District Judge Timothy Hillman on Thursday ruled they can use the assistance through at least checkout time on Aug. 7. Hillman said he wants to hold another hearing on the evacuees' request to

keep the Transitional Sheltering Assistance program going and he expects to issue an order on Aug. 6. The evacuees have been living in hotels on the mainland since they fled the island after Hurricane Maria last September. Evacuees sued the Federal Emergency Management Agency earlier this month, just hours before the housing assistance was supposed to end. Officials with FEMA said in a statement that participating hotels were being notified about the new extension. FEMA is offering to cover the cost of evacuees moving back to island through the end of August. As of Friday, 675 evacuated families were using the vouchers on the mainland and another 375 families were using the vouchers on the island, according to FEMA. Florida had the most evacuated families using

the vouchers on the mainland, with 326, followed by Massachusetts with 166 families. In new affidavits filed with the court, Puerto Rican evacuees said they feared losing the housing vouchers. Elizabeth Delgado Santos came to Worcester, Massachusetts last January with her two children to live with her mother but her mother kicked them out after a few weeks and they became homeless. She started using the vouchers last February at a Worcester motel. She said she has felt tremendous fear and anxiety since being told the assistance was ending, because she has no other housing options and no support system. "I would wake up and go to sleep at night with severe stress and anxiety about where I would sleep with my children," she wrote. □

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ASHORE TO ASSIST ON HOLIDAY

Newton's 'Principia' among items in alleged \$8M book scheme

By MARC LEVY

An archivist and an antique bookseller were charged Friday with stealing millions of dollars' worth of rare books, illustrations, maps and photographs from a Pennsylvania library over a 20-year period, including Isaac Newton's "Principia," considered a watershed of science.

In some cases, the archivist used an X-Acto knife to cut potentially valuable maps and illustrations out of books in the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's historical collection, authorities said. They ultimately sold to other collectors famous originals that were hundreds of years old, authorities said.

Researchers found more than 300 items damaged or missing, a loss estimated at \$8 million.

Charged were former Carnegie Library archivist Gregory Priore, 61, and bookstore owner John Schulman, 54, with theft, conspiracy, forgery, receiving stolen property and other counts in the disappearance of hundreds of items.

Lawyers for the men did not return messages seeking comment. In a statement, library officials said they were "deeply disappointed that at the center of this case are two people who had close, long-standing relationships with the library."

Some in the antique and historical book world had heard about the case in the spring when authorities issued a detailed list of missing items and then when authorities unsealed search warrants three weeks ago. Ellen Dunlap, president of the American Antiquarian Society, said institutions, booksellers and collectors likely are going through

their records to determine whether they bought or resold anything from Schulman's store, Caliban Book Store.

"I can assure you if anybody bought anything from Caliban, they're seeing these headlines and saying, 'Uh oh, I'm looking at my books right now,'" Dunlap said.

The alleged scheme started unraveling last year when appraisers began a routine audit commissioned by the library and discovered that items were missing or damaged since the last audit in 1991.

The library locked down the room, and appraisers quickly began finding missing items for sale online, as well as items that had been sold or advertised by Schulman's bookstore, a block away from the library.

In June 2017, library officials contacted authorities and fired Priore.

Detectives say efforts to recover the items have netted books, plates and maps estimated at a value of \$1.1 million. Some were found during a search last year of Schulman's book warehouse, detectives said.

One particularly valuable item allegedly stolen and recovered was Newton's "Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica," with an estimated value of \$900,000.

Listed as a total loss are: "An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations" by Adam Smith, at a value of \$180,000; a journal of George Washington, estimated at \$250,000; and "Reise in das Innere Nord-America" by Prince Alexander Philipp Maximilian and Karl Bodmer, at a value of \$1.2 million.

In one case, the men allegedly forged a letter from the library to help them sell

a book signed by Thomas Jefferson. The letter was designed to make it look as though the library had removed the book from its archives, detectives said.

An appraiser helping detectives found that book, "De la France et des Etats-Unis," for sale online for \$95,000 from a bookstore in New York. The book had been bought and sold twice after Schulman allegedly sold it to Bartleby's, detectives said.

In a 36-page narrative filed in court, Priore told detectives that he first approached Schulman in the late 1990s about selling items from the library's special collection and that Schulman agreed to do it. Priore, who in 1991 became manager and archivist of



Greg Priore, the former Oliver Room archivist at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, is taken in cuffs after arraignment at City Court, Friday, July 20, 2018 in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press

the library's special collections room, simply walked out of the library with books, authorities say. Sometimes he concealed maps or illustrations in a manila folder or, if it was larger, rolled it


up and carried it out, they said.

"Priore chose items from the Oliver Room to give to Schulman to sell if Priore felt they had value," the complaint said. □


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Revelations of US cardinal sex abuse will force pope's hand

By NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Revelations that one of the most respected U.S. cardinals allegedly sexually abused both boys and adult seminarians have raised questions about who in the Catholic Church hierarchy knew — and what Pope Francis is going to do about it.

If the accusations against Cardinal Theodore McCarrick bear out — including a new case reported Friday involving an 11-year-old boy — will Francis revoke his title as cardinal? Sanction him to a lifetime of penance and prayer? Or even defrock him, the expected sanction if McCarrick were a mere priest?

And will Francis, who has already denounced a "culture of cover-up" in the church, take the investigation all the way to the top, where it will inevitably lead? McCarrick's alleged sexual misdeeds with adults were reportedly brought to the Vatican's attention years ago.

The matter is now on the desk of the pope, who has already spent the better part of 2018 dealing with a spiraling child sex abuse, adult gay sex and cover-up scandal in Chile that was so vast the entire bishops' conference offered to resign in May.

And on Friday, Francis accepted the resignation of the Honduran deputy to Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga, who is one of Francis' top advisers. Auxiliary Bishop Juan José Pineda Fasquelle, 57, was accused of sexual misconduct with seminarians and lavish spending on his lovers that was so obvious to Honduras' poverty-wracked faithful that Maradiaga is now under pressure to reveal what he knew of Pineda's misdeeds and why he tolerated a sexually active gay bishop in his ranks.

The McCarrick scandal poses the same questions. It was apparently an open secret in some U.S. church circles that "Uncle Ted" invited seminarians to his beach house, and into his



In this Sept. 23, 2015 file photo, Pope Francis reaches out to hug Cardinal Archbishop emeritus Theodore McCarrick after the Midday Prayer of the Divine in Washington.

Associated Press

bed.

While such an abuse of power may have been quietly tolerated for decades, it doesn't fly in the #MeToo era.

And there has been a deafening silence from McCarrick's brother cardinals about what they might have known and when.

"There is going to be so much clamor for the Holy Father to remove the red hat, to formally un-cardinalize him," said the Rev. Thomas Berg, vice rector and director of admissions at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, the seminary of the archdiocese of New York.

Recounting how the McCarrick scandal has demoralized seminarians and priests alike, Berg said the church needs to ensure that men with deep-seated same-sex attraction simply don't enter seminaries — a position recently reinforced

by the Vatican for seminaries at large, Francis in reference to both the Chilean and Italian churches.

Berg said the church also needs to take action when celibacy vows are violated. "We can't effectively prevent the sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable adults by clergy while habitual and widespread failures in celibacy are quietly tolerated," he said.

McCarrick, the 88-year-old retired archbishop of Washington and confidante to three popes, was ultimately undone when the U.S. church announced June 20 that Francis had ordered him removed from public ministry. The sanction was issued pending a full investigation into a "credible" allegation that he fondled a teenager more than 40 years ago in New York City. The dioceses of Newark and Metuchen, New Jersey, simultaneously re-

vealed that they had received three complaints of misconduct by McCarrick against adults and had settled two of them.

Another alleged victim, the son of a McCarrick family friend identified as James, came forward in a report in The New York Times and subsequently in an interview with The Associated Press. James said he was 11 when McCarrick first exposed himself to him. From there, McCarrick began a sexually abusive relationship that continued for another two decades, James told AP.

"I was the first guy he baptized," James told AP. "I was his little boy. I was his special kid."

McCarrick has denied the initial allegation of abuse against a minor and accepted the pope's decision to remove him from public ministry.

Asked Friday about James,

a spokeswoman said McCarrick hadn't received formal notice of any new allegation but would follow the civil and church processes in place to investigate them.

Even now, Francis could take immediate action to remove McCarrick from the College of Cardinals, said Kurt Martens, a canon lawyer at the Catholic University of America.

He recalled the case of the late Scottish Cardinal Keith O'Brien, who recused himself from the 2013 conclave that elected Francis pope after unidentified priests alleged in newspapers that he engaged in sexual misconduct. In 2015, after a Vatican investigation, Francis accepted O'Brien's resignation after he relinquished the rights and privileges of being a cardinal. O'Brien was, however, allowed to retain the cardinal's title and he died a member of the college.

"I think that is totally unsatisfactory," Martens said, noting that just as the pope can grant the title of cardinal, he can also take it away. "O'Brien resigned, the pope accepted it. Isn't that the world upside down that someone picks his own penalty?"

O'Brien was never accused of sexually abusing a minor, however, as McCarrick now stands.

The stiffest punishment that an ordinary priest would face if such an accusation is proven would be dismissal from the clerical state, or laicization.

The Vatican rarely if ever, however, imposes such a penalty on elderly prelates. It also is loath to do so for bishops, because theologically speaking, defrocked bishops can still validly ordain priests and bishops.

Not even the serial rapist Rev. Marcial Maciel was defrocked after the Vatican finally convicted him of abusing Legion of Christ seminarians. Maciel was sentenced to a lifetime of penance and prayer — the likely canonical sanction for McCarrick if he is found guilty of abusing a minor in a church trial. □

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Rajoy says farewell as Spain's conservatives seek new leader

Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Former Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy vowed loyalty to his Popular Party in an emotional farewell Friday as the conservative party seeks to retake power in Spain.

The 63-year-old politician lost a parliamentary vote last month to his Socialist party opponent, Pedro Sanchez, in the wake of graft convictions for members of his center-right party.

Now in the opposition, Popular Party members on Friday began a two-day congress to choose a new leader between Soraya Saenz de Santamaria, 47,

who was deputy prime minister until June, and lawyer Pablo Casado, 37.

The winner faces the challenges of reuniting a party split by a bitter leadership battle and rebuilding its scandal-tarred reputation as rival new parties, both on the left and the right, upend Spain's traditional bi-partisan politics.

Rajoy, who led the party for 14 years, has vowed not to interfere in the election of his successor.

"I'm taking a step aside, but I'm not leaving," Rajoy told a full auditorium, adding: "I will be loyal."

Instead, in an emotional 40-minute televised



In this file photo dated Thursday, May 31, 2018, Spain's Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy and Popular Party leader listens to speeches during session at the Spanish parliament in Madrid.

Associated Press

speech, Rajoy defended his record applying auster-

ity to steer the eurozone's fourth-largest economy out

of its worst crisis in decades. He also said that, despite difficulties, his government had handled well the challenge by Catalan separatists over the northeastern region's sovereignty, which became a full-blown political crisis late last year. He also took pride from "defeating" the militant group ETA, which fought for decades for Basque independence. In 2017, Rajoy became the first sitting Spanish prime minister to testify as a witness for his party's corruption misdeeds. In a ruling last May, the court fined the party for benefiting from a kickbacks-for-contracts scheme. □

Poland's parliament OKs tighter grip on judicial branch

BY MONIKA SCISLOWSKA

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Poland's parliament voted Friday to approve legislation that will make it easier for the ruling party to appoint the president and members of the Supreme Court and influence judges.

It was the latest development in the right-wing ruling party's overhaul of the justice system that has sparked outrage from the opposition and from international law experts. European Union leaders say the changes threaten member Poland's rule of law and have opened sanctioning procedures.

Dominated by the ruling Law and Justice party, the lower house voted 230-24 with four abstentions to approve the legislation that

will also make it easier for the party to influence the work of judges in lower courts. It still needs approval from the Law and Justice-controlled Senate, and from President Andrzej Duda, who hails from the party.

The party argues the changes are designed to make the justice system more efficient and remove communist-era judges.

A protest by opponents was taking place Friday in front of the parliament building.

In the heated debate, opposition lawmakers said the Law and Justice party was dealing a deadly blow to Poland's justice system. Piotr Misilo of the Modern party said Law and Justice members will be taken to court for their actions.

The job and the independence of the Supreme Court's chief justice are at the center of a major political battle in Poland.

Recent legislation has lowered retirement age limits for judges to 65 from 70, so the ruling party considers chief Judge Malgorzata Gersdorf to be retired.

Gersdorf, however, has continued to show up for work, insisting that, according to Poland's constitution, her term runs until early 2020.

Attending a conference in Karlsruhe, Germany, Gersdorf said she wants Poles to understand that actions taken by the ruling party are against the constitution, but as judge she has no power to counter them. If a new chief justice is appointed "I will be (Supreme



Government opponents protest before the parliament building in Warsaw, Poland, Friday, July 20, 2018.

Associated Press

Court) president-in-exile," she told reporters.

Earlier Friday, Duda, the president, said he is hoping to win approval for a

November referendum on whether the country's constitution should be changed and if so, to what extent. □

Israeli east Jerusalem plan gets cool Palestinian reception

By TIA GOLDENBERG

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — A landmark half-billion-dollar Israeli plan to develop Palestinian areas of east Jerusalem and hoist residents out of poverty is getting a cool reception from the very people who are supposed to benefit.

Israel says it hopes the program will improve living conditions in impoverished Palestinian neighborhoods and grant residents access to Israel's robust economy. But the city's long-neglected Palestinian community views the project with deep skepticism and mistrust, fearing it is a way of cementing Israel's control over the eastern sector after more than 50 years of occupation.

"All these projects have nothing to do with improving our lives," said Ziad Hammoury, who heads the Jerusalem Center for Social and Economic Rights, an advocacy group. "It's about controlling more and more in east Jerusalem."

The "Leading Change" program, launched in May, aims to reduce the huge social gaps between the Palestinian neighborhoods and the overwhelmingly Jewish western part of the city. After years of neglect, Palestinian neighborhoods suffer from poor infrastructure, neglect and subpar public services, and nearly 80 percent of the city's Palestinian families live in poverty.

The program will invest 2 billion shekels, or \$560 million, in education, infrastructure and helping Palestinian women enter the work force. The money will be spent on a variety of programs, including nine pilot projects, over five years with the aim of attracting further government and private investment down the road.

The program was instituted by Israel's nationalist government. It opposes any division of the city but appears to have concluded that strengthening Jerusalem's Palestinian areas is also in Israel's interest.

"All those who truly believe



In this Wednesday, July 11, 2018 photo, a shopkeeper waits for customers in the Muslim Quarter of the Old City in Jerusalem.

Associated Press

in a unified Jerusalem and aspire to full sovereignty must act with determination to govern on one hand and to take responsibility for developing infrastructure on the other," Zeev Elkin, the government's minister for Jerusalem affairs, said at the project's launch in May. Elkin's ministry is expected to play a leading role in implementing the program, and he is running for Jerusalem mayor in elections this year.

The program's designers say they recognize the political sensitivities but contend the economic benefits will be real. They say integrating Palestinians more into Israeli society will provide more opportunities.

"It's a population like every other. It deserves to receive public services like everyone," said Shaul Meridor, the head of the Finance Ministry budget department. "Economically, it is just very clear to everyone that if we help this population to be in better shape, they will benefit and so will everyone else."

Israel captured east Jerusalem in the 1967 Mideast war and annexed it in a move that is not internationally recognized. Israel considers east Jerusalem an indivisible part of its capital, while the Palestinians seek the area, home to the city's

most sensitive holy sites, as the capital of a future state. Since 1967, Palestinian residents of east Jerusalem have been eligible for Israeli citizenship but most have not sought it, believing it would mean recognizing Israeli rule.

Instead, they have residency status, allowing them to work and travel freely in Israel. As non-citizens, they do not vote in Israeli elections. Few use their residency rights to vote in municipal elections, a political statement that denies them a way to influence their daily lives.

Palestinians make up 37 percent of Jerusalem's population of 866,000. Despite Israel's portrayal of Jerusalem as united, there are stark differences between Arab and Jewish parts of the city.

West Jerusalem's tidy pedestrian malls and winding bike paths stand in jarring contrast to the garbage-strewn, pot-holed streets of east Jerusalem. Many Palestinians work in menial jobs in the west side, where salaries are higher and work more plentiful. A ring of Jewish neighborhoods that Israel has built throughout east Jerusalem enjoy the same infrastructure and development as the west side.

One aspect of the new

project is to encourage Hebrew language learning and promote the adoption of the Israeli school curriculum as opposed to the Palestinian one, steps organizers say are aimed at opening the doors to Israel's economy. They say the project will also address land-use issues, erect commercial centers and increase access to public services.

Lior Schillat, the director-general of the Jerusalem Institute for Policy Research, called the program "historic," saying it was the first time an Israeli government was investing so heavily in the area's economic development.

In 2014, the government set aside a special budget of 200 million shekels (\$55 million) for the area, a fraction of the current project.

The city spends 9 to 11 percent of its budget on Palestinian neighborhoods, not proportional to their population, said Meir Margalit, a dovish former Jerusalem city council member. A municipality spokeswoman said the city has made "unprecedented" investments in east Jerusalem in recent years.

Organizers say they expect to see marked change brought by the new program within a few short years.

Schillat said there are indications more Palestinians are looking to Israel for economic opportunities rather than the West Bank or the broader Middle East. He said more people are enrolling in Israeli universities and colleges, more are applying for citizenship and half of all employed Palestinian east Jerusalemites work in west Jerusalem or surrounding Jewish towns. He said mistrust might be alleviated once change is seen on the ground.

Mohammad Owaida, an east Jerusalem resident, adviser to the Jerusalem Affairs Ministry and a participant in the project, said he is not concerned about the government's intentions so long as the project delivers change.

"I don't care what (Elkin's) agenda is. I care about improving the lives of 400,000 residents," he said, adding that he believed most people agreed with him but were too frightened to speak up.

Others say it is flawed because its conception didn't include a prominent role for east Jerusalemites — few of whom hold government positions — although organizers say they consulted frequently with residents. The project's celebratory launch, held at the Israeli president's residence, included a number of Israeli dignitaries, but few Palestinian faces.

"It's a great project but it came too late and didn't include local representatives," said Ramadan Dabash, one of a handful of Palestinians to ever run for Jerusalem city council. "Who knows east Jerusalem like those who live here?"

Critics also say they've seen past Israeli attempts to address the needs of the city's Palestinians falter.

"These are attempts to basically entice the Palestinian population to waive or dilute their national identity as Palestinians and to go Israeli," said Daniel Seidemann, a Jerusalem expert highly critical of government policies.

His solution to east Jerusalem's problems? □

India's Parliament rejects no confidence against motion

By ASHOK SHARMA

NEW DELHI (AP) — Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi accused the government of failing to live up to its promises as the Indian Parliament on Friday debated and defeated a no-confidence motion moved by the opposition against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government. The motion was defeated by 325-126 votes by the lawmakers.

Gandhi, the scion of the Nehru-Gandhi political dynasty, accused the government of creating only 400,000 new jobs against the 20 million promised in a year. He accused Modi of favoring big business houses in defense and business deals at the expense of poor people.

That angered lawmakers in Modi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, leading the speaker to briefly adjourn the house proceedings to cool tempers. Gandhi later resumed his speech and at the end of it unexpectedly walked to where Modi was sitting and shook hands and hugged him.



In this Tuesday, March 6, 2018 photo, Congress party lawmakers shout slogans as president Rahul Gandhi, watches during a protest outside parliament house in India.

Associated Press

Modi in his speech later had a dig at Gandhi's gesture, accusing him of trying to unseat him as the prime minister. Seema Mustafa, a political analyst, said Rahul Gandhi's hugging of Modi was a reminder to him that he was in the habit of embracing "reluctant and willing leaders across the world and today he was caught off guard" by Gandhi.

Modi said that the opposition knew that it didn't have enough support to defeat his government. "It misused the provision to destabilize his government," he said. Modi said his economic policies have lifted 50 million people out of poverty levels of less than \$2 income a day in the past four years. India has risen to be the sixth major economy in the world and was heading toward a \$5 trillion economy. The opposition apparently decided to test the strength

of Modi's government following Modi's estrangement with some of his allies. Two of them, Shiv Sena and Biju Janata Dal, decided to abstain from voting to express their unhappiness with Modi's policies. Opposition leaders, however, hope to reap political gains ahead of national elections early next year. They also accuse the government of failing to check rising violence against women, minority Muslims and Dalits. Modi rejected the opposition charge and said the government was taking steps to protect all sections of the society. Gandhi accused the Modi government of buying 36 Rafael fighter aircraft from France at a highly inflated price - nearly triple the price being negotiated when Congress was in power before Modi became prime minister in 2014. Defense Minister Nirmala Sitharaman immediately refuted his claim. Gandhi asked the government to reveal the price of the Rafael aircraft deal,

claiming that French President Emmanuel Macron told him in March the purchasing agreement had no secrecy clause. The French Embassy in New Delhi immediately issued a statement saying that a security agreement bound the two countries to protect classified information that could impact the defense capabilities of either. Modi in his speech accused Gandhi of "trampling upon the truth to mislead the nation on security-related issues." He didn't go into details. Textiles Minister Smriti Irani accused Gandhi of indulging in rhetoric and asked him back up his accusations with proof. Another minister, Kiran Rijiju, dismissed Gandhi's speech as "a political stunt." As parliament debated the no-confidence motion, farmers marched in the Indian capital demanding loan waivers and fair prices for their produce and other government help as India's agriculture sector struggles from years of declining earnings. □

Japan Parliament OKs law to allow up to 3 casino resorts

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's parliament on Friday approved a contentious law allowing up to three casino resorts to open in this wealthy nation and possibly lure more foreign visitors. The bill was approved and enacted into law at the upper house after bulldozing by the ruling bloc. The lower house passed it last month.

It adds rules of operation to a law on casino promotion passed in 2016. The enactment of the "integrated resorts" law means casinos can operate at resorts that include hotels, conference rooms and shopping malls in the mid-2020s. Supporters say casinos can attract more and wealthier tourists. Opponents say Japan already has "pachinko" pinball parlors and wagering on horse, auto, bicycle and boat racing, and expanding legalized gambling would fuel organized

crime and compound gambling addiction. Media surveys have showed a majority of Japanese oppose the plan. Projections by experts show casino visitors would be predominantly Japanese, rather than foreign tourists. Opposition lawmakers said the casino law would only allow foreign operators to make money off Japanese. The approval Friday was delayed for hours by opposition parties' protests. Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan leader Yukio Edano criticized the casino law and other policies of Abe's government, filibustering at an earlier lower house session for 2 hours and 43 minutes, the longest known since 1972. Edano condemned Abe for "prioritizing gambling (law)" over support for victims of recent deadly floods in western Japan. The law will allow up to three casinos to operate but they



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe delivers a speech during a press conference at the prime minister's official residence in Tokyo Friday, July 20, 2018.

Associated Press

are unlikely to open until the mid-2020s, after the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. Several cities, including Osaka and Wakayama in western Japan, Yokohama, a southern port city of Sasebo, and a few cities on the northern island of Hokkaido have expressed interests to bid for casino licenses. Host city and the central government split 30 percent

of the casino revenue they collect as tax. To address concerns about addiction, the law limits local residents to three casino visits per week and 10 per month. Admission will be free for foreigners but a set price for residents in Japan. Gaming operators, including major U.S. players such as MGM Resorts Interna-

tional, Wynn Resorts and Las Vegas Sands Corp., have made proposals since last year. MGM welcomed the passage of the law, saying in a statement that the development would push forward its effort, together with its Japanese business partners, to create a "uniquely Japanese, world-class integrated resort." The company, which set up a Japanese subsidiary in 2014 when Japan started discussing casinos, said it will launch an Osaka office in September. Japan has a significantly high gambling addiction rate among advanced nations. A 2017 study by the health ministry found that about 3.2 million people, or about 3.6 percent of the adult population, were thought to be addicted to gambling, far higher than many other countries — 1.2 percent in France, 0.4 percent in Italy and 0.2 percent in Germany. □

Human Rights Watch urges Brazil to regulate pesticides more

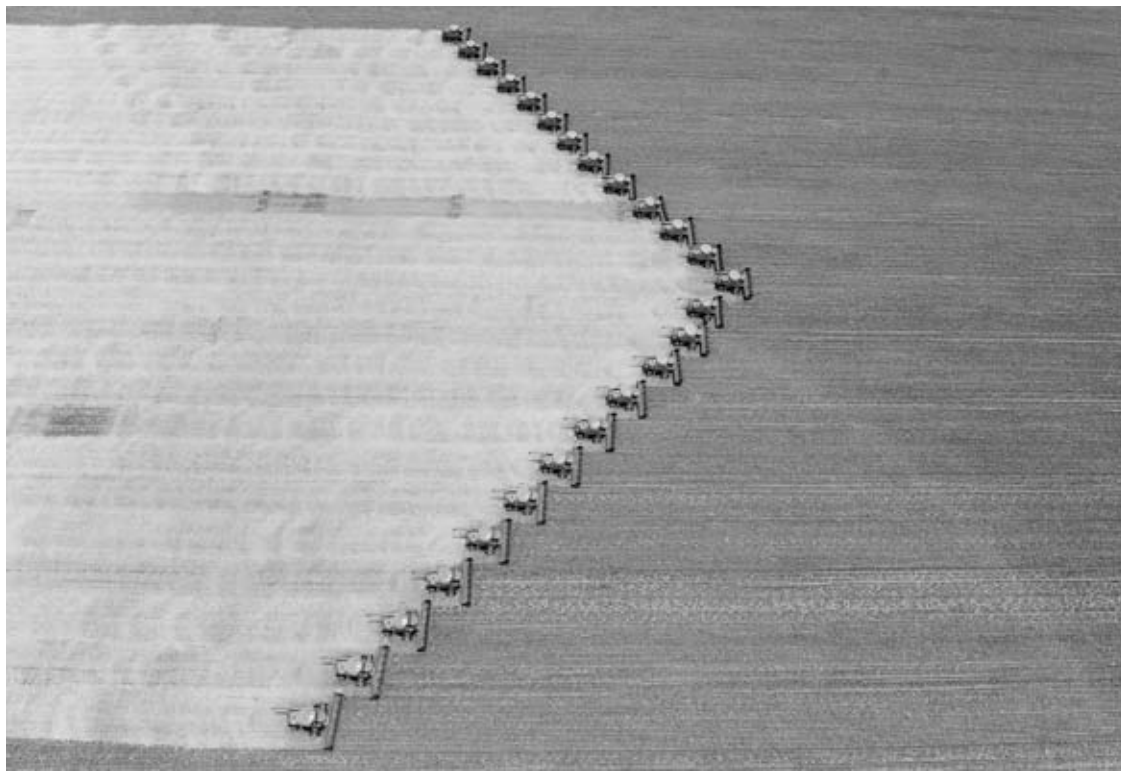
By SARAH DILORENZO

SAO PAULO (AP) — Human Rights Watch urged the Brazilian government Friday to establish buffer zones nationwide when pesticides are sprayed and reduce the use of highly toxic products.

The group said in a report that Brazil is one of the largest consumers of pesticides in the world and it often uses products that are not authorized elsewhere. Of the 10 most common pesticides in Brazil, four cannot be used in the European Union.

The poorly regulated use of pesticides puts people's health at risk, the report said. Health Ministry data show that around 4,000 pesticide poisoning cases were reported last year. The ministry said in a report this year that there has been progress on reporting the number of cases, but that the figures continue to greatly underrepresent the reality.

The Agriculture Ministry said state governments handle the regulation of pesticides. But Luis Rangel, a senior official with the ministry, added that the ministry



In this March 5, 2009 file photo, workers on tractors harvest soybeans in Campo Novo do Parecis, in Mato Grosso state, Brazil.

Associated Press

wants to increase the role of agronomists in regulating and monitoring how pesticides can be safely used. He did not elaborate. The Health Ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Agriculture is a major engine of the economy in Brazil, which is among the largest producers of sugar,

coffee and soybeans in the world. The "rural caucus" of lawmakers in Congress, who defend the interests of large landowners, are allies of President Michel Temer and wield significant political power.

Human Rights Watch urged Brazil to reduce the use of highly hazardous pesticides and to learn more about

the harmful effects they can have.

Specifically, the report calls on the country to enact and enforce national rules that keep ground-spraying of pesticides away from areas like homes and schools. A rule already exists for aerial-spraying, but the group said it was not consistently followed. "Pesticides are

sprayed right up to (schools and communities) and sometimes on top of them. If you live there, you can get sick," said Richard Pearshouse, associate director of the Human Rights Watch environmental division and one of the report's authors. The report documented dozens of cases in which people became sick after accidentally being sprayed by crop-dusters or coming into contact with pesticides that drifted out of fields and into their villages. The report said their symptoms were consistent with "acute pesticide poisoning," including vomiting, elevated heart rates, headaches and dizziness.

The authors added that some people refused or were reluctant to speak with them because there have been cases of violence against activists who call for reducing the use of pesticides.

Human Rights Watch said a bill making its way through Brazil's Congress would make it easier for pesticides to be approved, including by limiting the role of health and environment agencies. □

Ecuador's ex-president seeks protection from arrest order

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — Ex-President Rafael Correa asked for international protection Friday after an Ecuadorian judge ordered that he be jailed for missing a court date, even though

the former leader is living in Europe.

Correa appealed to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights for protection, saying he is in grave danger from the

criminal prosecution. While in power, he denounced the commission as being illegitimate.

A judge in Ecuador ordered Correa's arrest and extradition from Belgium after he

failed to appear for legal proceedings in connection with a kidnapping case.

Correa has not been charged with a crime, but officials requested he appear periodically in court

in Ecuador's capital as they investigate the botched 2012 kidnapping of his former political rival Fernando Balda. The 55-year-old Correa lives in his wife's native Belgium. □

Doctors Without Borders closing 2 hospitals in Haiti capital



Inocia Meroliste stands with labor pains outside the closed gate of Sans Frontieres hospital in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Thursday, July 19, 2018.

Associated Press

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Doctors Without Borders is closing two hospitals in Haiti's capital opened by the aid group in the aftermath of the January 2010 earthquake that devastated much of the city, an official with the organization said Friday.

A 176-bed obstetrics hospital in the Delmas area of Port-au-Prince will close in the coming days after some final patients are discharged and a hospital in

the Tabarre area will close next year, said Michelle Chouinard, who heads the group's mission in Haiti. Both facilities opened in the wake of the earthquake that killed tens of thousands of people and left the capital and much of southern Haiti in ruins. Both were intended to be temporary but were extended because of the medical needs in the impoverished country.

"Given that the situation in Haiti is still difficult it was a

very hard decision," Chouinard said.

Many poor people in the capital depend on the obstetrics hospital, which has treated about 500 patients a month.

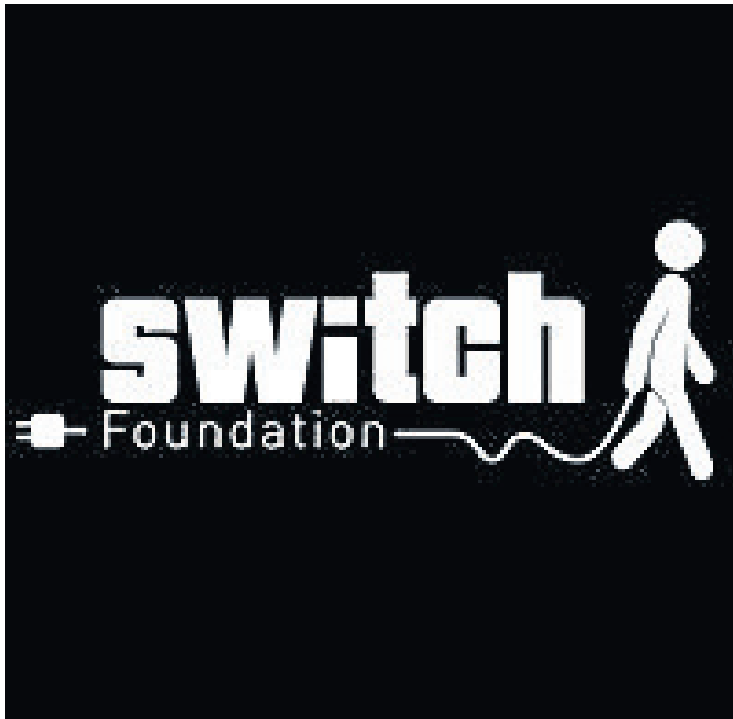
About 40,000 babies have been born there.

Doctors Without Borders will continue to operate four clinics in Haiti, including one in Delmas that provides emergency medical care to victims of sexual and gender-based violence. □

LOCAL



Switch of Mentality



ORANJESTAD — Switch Foundation is a multimedia foundation which helps to promote the activities and results of our foundations and organizations working for the well-being and the development of our community. Switch Foundation informs, educates, and raises awareness through our media communication tools.

Their main aim is to generate a "switch" of mentality in their audience and the community where prejudice is eliminated and tolerance is stimulated. It is human nature to incline towards prejudice because of lack of education and information.

Switch Foundation started as a TV program in April 2011 called "Switch" based on research in a documentary format bringing forth local family issues in Papiamentu - problematic, the cause, the consequences and ways of prevention-exposing experts in the field with real statistics and testimonials. Switch brings forth the information in a dynamic, real and visually attractive style which attracts both the youth and adults. Their main focus is to open up the eyes of our

gether with all local foundations and organizations working for the wellbeing of children, the youth and families. Switch Foundation points out that in order to fix any problem we will always have to go back to the roots: The Family!

The Founder

Mrs. Paula Nahr is the founder of Switch Foundation. Paula hasn't always had a burning desire to be a social entrepreneur. When she was a small child living in Colombia, she watched with wide eyes some of the struggles her mother suffered through, because she hadn't been able to get a proper education. Her mother imparted a vital lesson to her daughter: education equals power. That quest for education took Paula all the way to New York City where she met

Reza Fakhari; the man who inspired her to become a driving force for good in this world.

The name was inspired by the foundation's mission statement which is to gently help people 'switch' their point of view. Combining education and entertainment, Paula hopes to expose some problems that plague our society in hopes of raising awareness that could eventually lead to a happier and healthier community.

Projects

All their videos can be found on their website and their Facebook page and are accessible to all public. Topics that Switch Foundation have worked on and posted on social media are bullying, drug addicts, domestic violence, juvenile pregnancy and they

are currently working on a project about human trafficking.

Promesa Falso

"Promesa falso" meaning False Promise is the name of their new project. It's a reenactment of a true story in which a lover boy tries to conquer the girl, make her fall in love and gives her false hope. He uses her psychologically and starts exploiting her sexually. Human Trafficking is something happening all over the world and unfortunately it's happening on the island too. Human trafficking is split into three parts. Sexual exploitation, labor exploitation and organ trafficking. This project is mainly focused on the sexual and labor part. Production is almost finished. So be pending for the launch of this marvelous project. □



Study trip to Belgorod (Russia) and Pegasus week



ORANJESTAD — As part of the international project, 3rd years students from the University of Aruba went to a summer school week in Russia, which is called Pegasus week. The Pegasus week was held in the week of June 26th up to July 2nd in Belgorod, Russia. In collaboration with the Hanze Hogeschool Groningen (The Netherlands) the FEF could offer this program to their students for the first time.

During my third year of college I had an option to choose between two types of projects. I selected the international project. I had to work with students from The Netherlands on an assignment about sustainability and innovation, and at the end of the project we would have to present our project in Russia. For me this was an opportunity I could not have missed. The main reason why I was so interested in this was that I always see myself as an open minded person who always wants to learn new things about other countries and cultures. I have met with two driven students of the University of Belgorod, they surprised me with the knowledge that they obtain of their own history, culture and food. The fact that they know so much details of everything made me realize how wise and aware

they are of their own country. I have learnt so much from the workshops in Pegasus week in Belgorod and to see how we as students of University of Aruba made a difference as well by teaching the other students of Belgorod a bit of our country and traditions. We are a small dot on the map but we made a big impact in the lives of the students. For me this was a once in a lifetime experience which I wish to never forget.

Narisa Khan

What I would definitely take with me from this experience is that there is much more to learn from others and they also can learn

from you. It's like an adventure to remember. To work in a team with students from other nationalities such as Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and much more, is a unique blend for making a new friendship circle. This opportunity has made me get out of my comfort zone and experience something new. It will open doors to pursue even more than you can ever think of and to enjoy the journey.

Marie-Claire Heinze

In preparation of the Summer school the students who participated in the international project had to raise funds to cover the travel costs, mostly airline tickets. The lodging costs

and food & beverage were fully covered by the Belgorod University.

Before the summer school, students had to bring in their project. Most of the projects were existing projects. With the help of international experts who provided lecturers and gave advice along the way, students worked in project teams and improved their project plans in order to meet the business standards even more. The final aim was to turn the project plans into real business cases, so they could be assessed by business experts, investors and the like.

This June, two of the FEF-students Marie-Claire Heinze and Narisa Khan, under guidance of FEF-lecturer Bauke Feenstra, went to the Pegasus week and came back with joyful memories and a load of new learning experiences. In the text box you can read about the students' most memorable insights.

About Belgorod and Pegasus week

Belgorod lies in the mid-west of Russia, very close to the border with Ukraine. From Moscow it is a one-hour flight to Belgorod, a city of around 400.000 citizens that was founded in the 10th Century. Nowadays this city and surrounding area get their income mainly from agriculture and

is also known as the granary of Russia. The Pegasus week took place in a small place in the woods, a 40 minute ride in south west direction from Belgorod, even closer to the Ukraine border. The program's official name is "Pegasus 2018" International Youth School of Project Management, named after the famous greek mythical creature, Pegasus. For the 7th consecutive time this program is organized by the Belgorod National Research University, Institute of Management and is supported by the Foundation for Humanitarian Cooperation of CIS countries. Future students will get also the opportunity to go to the Pegasus week, as extra-curricular activity in the 4th year FEF-minor program.

Thanks to our sponsors!

We would like to thank all the sponsors, staff of the UA and Hanze, family members and other people who were involved and made this trip possible and an unforgettable journey. Special thanks goes to the following companies and organizations who donated in kind or in cash: Alno Kitchen, Aruba Airport Authority, Aruba Bank, ATA, Bon Bini Cargo, Ernst & Young, CHS, CIBC Bank, Gamma, Marlon's Garage, MGM Source, Ola Shipping Supplies, Pactholding Consultancy, PWC and University of Aruba. Masha, masha dankii! □



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Fishing in July in Aruba

ORANJESTAD — Fishing has been excellent so far in July, with charter fishermen landing big game on the east side of the island. Yellowfin and Blackfin Tuna take the spotlight, followed by some Wahoo. The south side of Aruba produces a good deal of Kingfish, Bonito, and Mahi Mahi. Once you head out, you will face the typical Aruban wind and 3-6 ft waves, but overall, fishing is superb and you should definitely head offshore.

The fish you can catch in July

Aruba fishing in July is all about big fighters, fast hard-hitters, and tasty bottom fish. You can get Wahoo, Mahi Mahi, Yellowfin and Blackfin Tuna, Kingfish, Sailfish, and Blue Marlin while trolling offshore. If the action is slow, you can switch to jigging. Captain Milton Pichard of Teaser Charters has caught a lot

of game fish on six- and eight-hour trips. He reports that right now fish are further out, but their bite is still in full force.

If you're up for bottom fishing, you can catch a variety of delicacies. Captain Roberto Tromp of Dorothy Fishing Charters has caught

Triggerfish, Yellowtail Snapper, Red Snapper, Strawberry Grouper, and Amberjack. His customers have also hooked into Bonito,

Mahi, Wahoo, and some Billfish.

Continued on Page 16



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Where to fish this month?

Local captains mostly fish the east side of Aruba

right now. If you're heading out of Oranjestad, a six- to eight-hour trip will be enough to reach these fisheries and troll for big fish, in-

cluding Wahoo, Mahi, Yellowfin and Blackfin Tuna, and Billfish. Captain Milton has been fishing the east side of Aruba with a lot of

success this month. He also reports that Noord is a productive fishing spot at the moment.

If you want to go on a four-hour trip, you will have the best chances fishing the south side of the island. Captain Milton and Captain Roberto have both caught Kingfish, Bonito, and Mahi Mahi here while trolling and jigging. But there are other fish here as well. Captain Roberto has snatched some Wahoo here, and has also managed to land Sailfish and Blue Marlin in the southwestern waters of Aruba.

What's the weather like?

Although July days are hot, once you head out, you will feel the wind. Waves are about 3 to 6 feet high, but despite the choppy conditions, most anglers don't get seasick. The temperature has been moving around 32°C (90°F) and is expected to remain the same until the end of the month. There are a lot of people fishing right now, and charter captains have a steady number of customers who are eager to get that fish. Make sure to book your spot on time! ☐

SPORTS



Dustin Johnson of the US plays off the 9th tee during the second round of the British Open Golf Championship in Carnoustie, Scotland, Friday July 20, 2018.

Associated Press

Johnson and Kisner, housemates and British Open leaders

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

CARNOUSTIE, Scotland (AP)

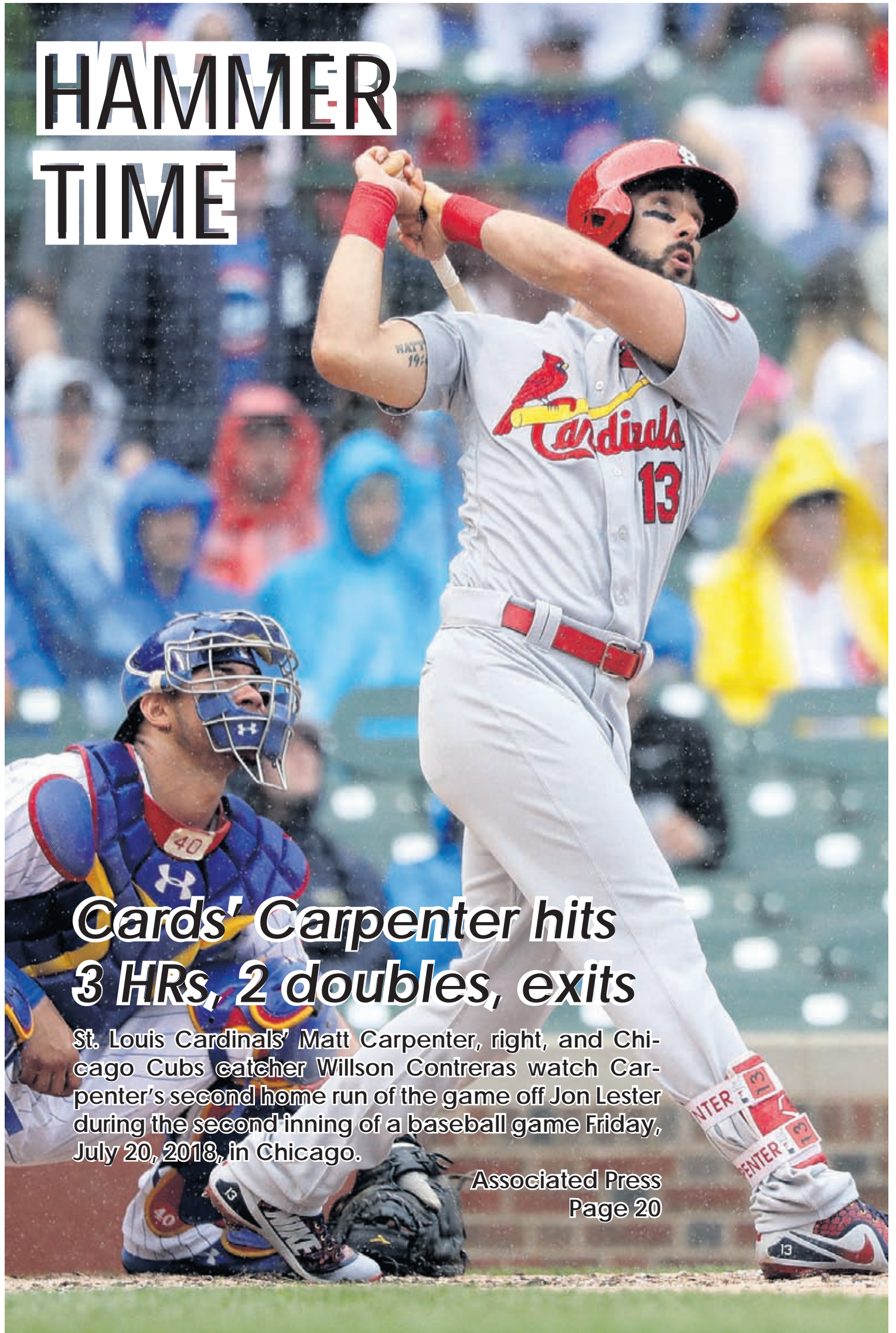
— A light rain in the morning that gave way to soft sunlight in the afternoon took some of the sting out of Carnoustie. Just not all of it. Kevin Kisner found that out with one swing that erased his two-shot lead Friday in the British Open and left him tied with housemate Zach Johnson. He hit an 8-iron that only needed to go 150 yards to clear the Barry Burn in front of the 18th green. Instead, it floated out of the yellow grass to the right, bounced off the base of the rock wall that frames the winding stream and led to a double bogey.

Disappointed but not down, Kisner removed his cap behind the green and scratched his head as if he wondered what hit him.

"They call it 'Car-nasty' for a reason," he said after signing for his 1-under 70. "Even when you think you've got it, it will jump up and bite you."

Continued on Page 19

HAMMER TIME



Cards' Carpenter hits 3 HRs, 2 doubles, exits

St. Louis Cardinals' Matt Carpenter, right, and Chicago Cubs catcher Willson Contreras watch Carpenter's second home run of the game off Jon Lester during the second inning of a baseball game Friday, July 20, 2018, in Chicago.

Associated Press
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NFL, NFLPA freeze anthem rules amid backlash to Miami policy

By **ROB MAADDI**

AP Pro Football Writer

The NFL's two-month old national anthem policy is on hold.

Hours after The Associated Press reported that Miami Dolphins players who protest on the field during the anthem could be suspended for up to four games under a team policy issued this week, the league and the players union issued a joint statement late Thursday night saying the two sides are talking things out. "The NFL and NFLPA, through recent discussions, have been working on a resolution to the anthem issue. In order to allow this constructive dialogue to continue, we have come to a standstill agreement on the NFLPA's grievance and on the NFL's anthem policy. No new rules relating to the anthem will be issued or enforced for the next several weeks while these confidential discussions are ongoing," the statement read. "The NFL and NFLPA reflect the great values of America, which are repeatedly demonstrated by the many players doing extraordinary work in communities across our country to promote equality, fairness and justice. Our shared focus will remain on finding a solution to the anthem issue through mutual, good faith commitments, outside of litigation."

The issue has dominated headlines over the past two seasons, caused division and alienated some fans.

The NFL rule that was passed in May forbid players from sitting or taking a knee if they are on the field or sidelines during "The Star-Spangled Banner," but allowed them to stay in the locker room if they wish. The policy said teams would be



In this Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016, file photo, Miami Dolphins wide receiver Kenny Stills (10), free safety Michael Thomas (31) and defensive back Chris Culliver (29) kneel during the National Anthem before the first half of an NFL football game against the Buffalo Bills in Miami Gardens, Fla.

Associated Press

finer if players didn't stand during the anthem while on the field. The league left it up to teams on how to punish players.

None of the team policies had been made public until the AP obtained a copy of Miami's nine-page discipline document. It included a one-sentence section on "Proper Anthem Conduct" and was provided to the AP by a person familiar with the policy who insisted on anonymity because the document is not public. It classifies anthem protests under a large list of "conduct detrimental to the club," all of which could lead to a paid or unpaid suspension, a fine or both. The Dolphins said in a statement: "The NFL required each team to submit their rules regarding the anthem before their players reported to training camp. We will address this issue once

the season starts. All options are still open."

Miami can choose not to issue any suspension nor fine any player guilty of "conduct detrimental to the club." Other violations under that label include drug use or possession, gambling, breaking curfew and riding motorcycles as a driver or passenger from the start of camp until the last game of the season. Jets acting owner Christopher Johnson said shortly after the league announced its policy that he will not punish his players for any peaceful protests — and would pay any potential fines incurred by the team as a result of his players' actions.

The new league rules were challenged this month in a grievance by the players union. The NFLPA said the NFL policy, which the league imposed without

consultation with the players union, is inconsistent with the collective bargaining agreement and infringes on player rights. Now, the two sides are hoping to reach a solution without litigation.

Dolphins veteran receiver Kenny Stills took a knee with a hand on his heart during the anthem throughout last season. Defensive tackle Jordan Phillips put his arm around Stills before one game. Two other players who knelt — safety Michael Thomas and tight end Julius Thomas — are no longer with the team.

Defensive end Robert Quinn, who raised his fist during the anthem while with the Rams, is now with the Dolphins.

"Players who are on the field during the Anthem performance must stand and show respect for the flag and the Anthem,"

says the 16th and final bullet point on Miami's list of conduct considered detrimental, below disparaging teammates, coaches or officials including NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell.

The NFL started requiring players to be on the field for the anthem in 2009 — the year it signed a marketing deal with the military.

In 2016, then-49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick began protesting police brutality, social injustice and racial inequality by kneeling during the national anthem, and the demonstration spread to other players and teams.

Critics led by President Donald Trump called the players unpatriotic and even said NFL owners should fire any player who refused to stand during the anthem. Some players countered that their actions were being misconstrued and that they are seeking social change rather than protesting the anthem itself.

Trump's criticism led more than 200 players to protest during one weekend, and some kept it up throughout the season. The league and a coalition of players have been working in tandem to support player initiatives for a variety of social issues. The NFL is committing \$90 million over the next seven years to social justice causes in a three-segment plan that involves league players. Kaepernick didn't play at all last season and still hasn't been picked up by another team. He threw 16 touchdown passes and four interceptions in his final season in 2016. Safety Eric Reid, one of Kaepernick's former teammates and another protest leader, is also out of work.

Both have filed collusion grievances against the NFL. □

Johnson and Kisner, housemates and British Open leaders

Continued from Page 17

It took a chunk out of Dustin Johnson and Justin Thomas, the Nos. 1 and 2 players in the world who won't be around for the weekend. Johnson finished with a double bogey to miss the cut by one. Thomas made three straight double bogeys on the front nine and missed by one.

And it left a wide-open weekend on a course with a history of crazy finishes. Zach Johnson, whose name already is on the claret jug from his playoff victory at St. Andrews three years ago, played in the morning under an umbrella and finished with a 30-foot birdie putt for a 67.

Johnson and Kisner are staying in a house of seven players — five of them major champions — and share the lead at 6-under 136.

They played on different ends of a day that started gray and ended with shadows. Scotland's unusually dry summer finally got a reprieve. There wasn't enough rain to turn brown fairways green, though it at least kept shots from rolling endlessly.

They head into a weekend with endless possibilities.

One shot behind were Tommy Fleetwood (65), Pat Perez (68) and Xander Schauffele (66). Perez was tied for the lead until he hit into a bunker on the 18th hole and took bogey.

Rory McIlroy, pledging to "go down swinging" to rid himself of a bad Masters memory this year, had another 69 and was part of a large group two shots behind.

Jordan Spieth also is in the mix in his bid to take the claret jug back home to Texas.

Spieth hit 8-iron through a gap in the trees for a birdie-birdie start to the back

nine, and he dropped only one shot — not four like he did on Thursday — over the four closing holes at Carnoustie for a 67. He goes into the weekend just three shots back.

"Very happy to be back in the tournament," Spieth said.

Tiger Woods still has work to do after a rugged start, good recovery and then a mix of birdies and bogeys that left him stuck in neutral on a better day for scoring. Woods had another 71 and was six shots behind, with 28 players between him and the lead.

"We've been fortunate with the conditions. It hasn't blown yet," Kisner said. "I think it will blow this weekend and make it even more difficult. Who knows what's going to happen? We're going to just keep trying to get after it."

Carnoustie was a far different test from the opening round, when sunshine baked the fairways crisp and it was difficult to figure out how far the ball was going when it hit the ground. The steady, light rain made them a little slower and a lot more predictable. The greens held shots a little better.

Strategies changed. Slightly softer conditions meant power players who were driving beyond the trouble hit more irons off the tee, and shorter players hit more drivers and fairway metals. Kisner hit 5-iron off the first tee Thursday. He hit 3-wood Friday.

"Hit the same club as the approach," Kisner said. "That's a pretty dramatic difference in distance."

Kisner is a newcomer to what amounts to an American fraternity house at golf's oldest championship the last three years. Four of them are among the top 11 on the leaderboard go-

ing into the weekend with Spieth and Rickie Fowler, who shot 69 and was at 3-under 139.

As for talking shop after work? Nothing is off limits.

"Everybody will tell their horror stories and good stories, and we'll laugh and eat a big old meal and sit around and watching something stupid," Kisner said.

Thomas will have one of the horror stories.

The PGA champion took three to get out of a pot bunker from the fairway on the par-5 sixth hole, making the first of three straight double bogeys.

Johnson became the first No. 1 player to miss the cut since Luke Donald in 2011, and it was the second straight that the top two players in the world ranking missed the cut in a major.

The way golf has been going, it would be reasonable to see the name "Johnson" atop the leaderboard and assume it belonged to the top-ranked player.

But not necessarily at the British Open.

"I've been called Dustin many times," Zach Johnson said. "I doubt he's been called Zach that many times."

Johnson overcame a bogey on the opening hole with birdies on the third and fourth holes, and he never put himself under too much pressure the rest of the way. Already a two-time major champion with titles at St. Andrews and Augusta National, the 42-year-old from Iowa now has made the cut 12 straight times in the British Open, a streak that began at Carnoustie in 2007. His low ball flight, grinding nature and good putting give him the right ingredients.

Kisner is no stranger to pressure at a major.

He had at least a share of the lead after each of three rounds at the PGA Championship last summer until a bogey on the 70th hole ruined his chances.

"Hopefully, I'll have another chance to prove that I can do it here," Kisner said. □



Kevin Kisner of the U.S. waits to play on the 10th tee during the second round of the British Open Golf Championship in Carnoustie, Scotland, Friday July 20, 2018.

Associated Press

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Carpenter 3 HRs, 2 doubles and exits, Cards hammer Cubs 18-5

CHICAGO (AP) — Already in the midst of a monster game, Matt Carpenter almost left too early.

Carpenter stuck around for one more swing, and connected for a three-run homer Friday that capped off a historic performance for the St. Louis Cardinals in an 18-5 romp over the Chicago Cubs.

Carpenter hit three home runs and two doubles, going 5 for 5 with seven RBIs. He tied the major league record for extra-base hits in a game, and became the first player to do it in just six innings.

"I'm having a hard time to come up with words to describe a day like this," Carpenter said.

Carpenter led off the game at Wrigley Field with a home run against Jon Lester. With the Cardinals comfortably ahead, interim manager Mike Shildt contemplated resting him.

"I almost didn't take the last at-bat. He came up to me, they had the lefty on mound and he said, 'Hey, what do you think?'" Carpenter said.

"I was actually OK with Jose (Martinez) coming in, we had a big lead, we have a lot of games piling up in the next couple of days. I was honestly OK with it," he



St. Louis Cardinals' Matt Carpenter (13) is greeted outside the dugout by Yadier Molina after Carpenter's home run off Chicago Cubs starting pitcher Jon Lester during the first inning of a baseball game Friday, July 20, 2018, in Chicago.

said. "And then I looked at the situation knowing that if I was going to get up, there was going to be runners on base so I went back up to him and said,

'Hey, I'll take this last one, for sure,'" Carpenter said. It turned into a huge day for Carpenter, who exited after that last homer.

"I can't think outside of T-ball that I have ever done that, certainly a first for me," he said.

Carpenter became the

14th player with five extra-base hits in a game, and the first to do it for the Cardinals.

Trailing 15-1 after Carpenter's third homer, the Cubs used three position players to pitch the rest of the way — infielder Tommy La Stella, backup catcher Victor Caratini and versatile Ian Happ.

La Stella and Caratini gave up homers as the Cubs became the first team since the 1979 Milwaukee Brew-

ers to use three position players on the mound in a game.

Carpenter has homered in four straight games.

During that stretch, he is 9 for 16 with six home runs, three doubles and 10 RBIs. The leadoff homer by Carpenter was his team-record sixth of the season and 21st of his career, matching the club mark held by Hall of Famer Lou Brock.

"It's super humbling to be mentioned in the same

sentence as Lou. Anytime you're in any kind of record with an organization like this, it is certainly humbling. It's a privileged to put on this jersey and play for an organization that has such a cherished history and any time you can be a part of it's pretty neat," Carpenter said.

Carpenter hit a two-run homer in the second off Jon Lester (12-3). Carpenter doubled twice in the fourth and hit a three-run drive, his 23rd this year, off reliever Brian Duensing in the sixth.

Carpenter has faced Lester more than any other pitcher during his career, but was just 7 for 50 (.140) with 14 strikeouts and one home run against the lefty until breaking loose.

Lester (12-3) was tagged for a season-high eight runs on seven hits and five walks in three innings. It was his first loss since a 1-0 loss to Cleveland on May 23.

"Yeah, unfortunately. I would have liked to minimize the damage a little bit more, I was unfortunately not able to. I don't want to chalk it up like days like this happen. I think mechanically this has kind of been coming, I've been battling myself a little bit these last three starts," he said. □



In this April 12, 2017, file photo, Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Antonio Bastardo walks with a bird that was injured during batting practice before a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press

Pitcher Antonio Bastardo gets second drug suspension

NEW YORK (AP) — Free agent pitcher Antonio Bastardo has been suspended for the rest of the season under the minor league drug program following a positive test for the steroid Stanozolol, a penalty that follows a 50-game ban five years ago for his involvement with the Biogenesis clinic.

A 32-year-old left-hander, Bastardo agreed in January to a minor league contract with Arizona. He made seven appearances for the Diamondbacks in spring training and then was released. The commissioner's office said Friday that Bastardo was suspended for

140 games for a second violation of a baseball drug program. The penalty is retroactive to the start of the minor league season.

Bastardo is 27-20 with a 4.01 ERA in 414 relief appearances and five starts in nine seasons for Philadelphia (2009-14), Pittsburgh (2015-17) and the New York Mets (2016). He had a 15.00 ERA in nine games for the Pirates last year.

After his 50-game suspension was announced in August 2013, Bastardo said: "I look forward to regaining the trust and respect of the Phillies' organization, Phillies fans and my family." Tampa Bay outfielder Da-

vid Olmedo-Barrera was suspended 80 games for a positive test for Dehydrochloromethyltestosterone (DHCMT). He is hitting .242 with two homers and 17 RBIs this season for Charlotte of the Class A Florida State League.

Three players were suspended for 72 games each under the minor league drug program: Seattle pitcher Yeisel De Los Santos and Atlanta pitcher Joselin Vallejo for positive tests for Stanozolol, and Chicago Cubs pitcher Saul Vazquez for a positive test for Nandrolone. All three are on Dominican Summer League rosters. □

Dash for cash: Cup champ Truex in the market for '19 sponsor

By DAN GELSTON
AP Sports Writer

LOUDON, N.H. (AP) — Martin Truex Jr. has a sudden thirst for sponsorship cash. Truex and his Furniture Row Racing team had about three weeks' notice that 5-hour Energy was set to leave the defending NASCAR champion as a primary sponsor at the end of the season.

After a 10-year relationship, the NASCAR buzz wore off for the energy brand, the latest big-bucks corporate defector from the sport. 5-hour's departure leaves Furniture Row scrambling for coveted sponsorship dollars for the No. 78 Toyota and one of the top drivers in the Cup Series.

"I wish it didn't take quite as long as it did," Truex said Friday at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. "It kind of puts us in a tough spot now. But I'm not really, really worried. I think something good can come out of this."

Furniture Row should be able to attract a top sponsor: Truex has 16 wins since 2016 and FRR has sponsorship funding from Bass Pro Shops and Auto-Owners Insurance, and is locked in with Toyota, the class of the manufacturers.

"I just can't imagine there isn't some partner out there that wouldn't want to be partnered with this whole group," FRR President Joe Garone said. "We've gotten a lot of interest just in the days since we've announced it."

But Truex's success wasn't enough for 5-hour to keep pumping the millions of dol-

lars needed to help fund the 78 and the car isn't the only one on the market. Lowe's decided to cease its relationship with Hendrick Motorsports and Jimmie Johnson at the end of the season after winning seven NASCAR titles.

It's emblematic of the overall sponsor woes when the last two series champions, like other big names, can't even keep a long-term backer

"A lot of things go into those decisions," Truex said. "I don't know a ton about their business and how it's doing or anything like that. Obviously, you'd think that with the success we've had and kind of how the last two years for us have went that, it's certain we delivered on our end of the deal."

Rise' Meguiar, president of sales for Living Essentials, parent company of 5-hour Energy, said this week the choice to leave the sport was a "business decision." The company declined further comment Friday.

5-hour was the primary sponsor for 14 races this season, Bass Pro was scheduled for 16 and Auto-Owners for six. Team owner Barney Visser had used his Furniture Row company as a sponsor in the past — Truex wears an FRR fire-suit next to Johnson in his Lowe's suit on the New Hampshire race program cover — but it would be a last-gasp move to put FRR back on the hood.

Garone said the primary goal was to get the Toyota fully funded with outside partners.



he crew for NASCAR Cup Series driver Martin Truex Jr. work on the race car before auto racing practice, Friday, July 20, 2018, at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon, N.H.

Associated Press

5-hour had been a NASCAR primary sponsor for nearly a decade, including the last seven at the Cup Series level. The company joined Furniture Row Racing in 2017 as majority primary sponsor on the No. 77 Toyota and Rookie of the Year winner Erik Jones, as well as a season-long associate and two primaries on the No. 78 with Truex. It became a primary for Truex this season when Jones, who won two weeks ago at Daytona, went to Joe Gibbs Racing.

5-hour stuck with NASCAR in the aftermath of the worst cheating scandal in the sport's history. NAPA Auto Parts cut ties in 2013 when Michael Waltrip Racing manipulated a race to

get Truex into the playoffs. But 5-hour stayed on when times were tough — and cut bait when it was riding high as a victory lane regular. "Some things don't make sense unless you're inside the inner working and we're not there," Garone said. "I'm sure they've got a plan." FRR and Truex said the sponsorship search would not derail their plans toward working on a contract extension. Truex won only two career races in eight full seasons before he joined Denver-based FRR in 2014 and his career soon skyrocketed toward a championship run. Garone, who said FRR will "absolutely" eventually return to a two-car operation,

said Truex's deal would get done.

"It's not real tough with Martin. He wants to race with us, we want to race with him," he said.

Truex lost a sponsor this week, but he at least won an ESPY for best driver. He skipped the award show for a fishing trip and said he didn't think he was invited, anyway. ESPN said Friday an invitation was emailed and faxed on June 19 to FRR and two Truex representatives.

"You want to get to Truex you better have his number," friend and former driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. tweeted.

FRR will surely give it to any sponsor that wants to make a deal. □

Terrell Owens released from Eskimos' negotiation list

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) — Terrell Owens was released from the Edmonton Eskimos' negotiation list Friday, leaving the 44-year-old former NFL receiver free to sign with any other Canadian Football League team.

Earlier, Owens activated a 10-day window to receive a contract offer from the Eskimos by Tuesday. Edmonton placed Owens, who last played in the NFL in 2010, on its 45-man ne-

gotiation list June 19, shortly after he posted a video of himself running a 4.43-second 40-yard dash. Jason Staroszik, the Edmonton-based agent handling Owens' CFL negotiations, said the Eskimos' decision won't dampen the receiver's enthusiasm about resuming his football career in Canada.

"It's definitely not over," Staroszik said. "Terrell could still sign as a free agent with any team that's inter-

ested. We might see another team put him on their negotiation list. Hopefully there's another team with an interest, I feel there is, so we'll see what happens." Owens will be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame next month in Canton, Ohio, but declined an invitation to the enshrinement ceremony. Instead, Owens will deliver his Hall of Fame speech at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, his alma mater. □



Chepkoech smashes 3000m steeplechase world record by over 8s

MONACO (AP) — Mission accomplished for Beatrice Chepkoech, who set out to break the 3,000-meter steeplechase world record and smashed it by more than eight seconds on Friday.

Chepkoech clocked 8 minutes, 44.32 seconds at the Herculis Diamond League meeting, becoming the first Kenyan woman to hold the 3,000 steeplechase world record.

The previous mark was 8:52.78 set by Ruth Jebet of Bahrain two years ago in Paris.

Chepkoech, who finished fourth at the 2016 Olympics and 2017 world championships, dropped all of her rivals with three laps left and won by more than 16 seconds.

"I wanted to break the world record, that was the plan from the beginning of the season," she said. "And I was aware the biggest chance would be at Monaco due to weather, crowds, and the whole environment. And this plan worked well."

In Chepkoech's slipstream, Courtney Frerichs was a distant runner-up but crossed in 9:00.85 to set the U.S. re-

cord.

Chepkoech's feat came just hours after the IAAF announced Jebet, the Olympic champion, was among 109 athletes and coaches facing disciplinary action for doping and other offenses.

Jebet was included in a list of athletes provisionally suspended after a positive test for EPO in February.

Earlier, Olympic champion Shaunae Miller-Uibo of the Bahamas set a world-leading time of 48.97 seconds to win the 400 meters.

Miller-Uibo, who set the previous fastest time in the world this year of 49.52 in Eugene in May, came off the final turn with a small lead over 20-year-old Bahrain runner Salwa Eid Naser and held over the final section to set a new meet record in the Principality.

Naser, who won the past four Diamond League meetings in Oslo, Stockholm, Paris, and Lausanne, finished second in 49.08, her new personal best.

Shakima Wimbley of the U.S. was third.

World and Olympic 800 champion Caster Semenya dominated and prevailed



Kenya's Beatrice Chepkoech competes in the women's 3000m steeplechase during the IAAF Diamond League Athletics meeting at the Louis II Stadium in Monaco, Friday, July 20, 2018.

Associated Press

in 1:54.60, failing to better the personal best of 1:54.25 she set last month in Paris.

"It was a great race, unfortunately I did not hit the mark we wanted," Semenya said. "We just need to be a bit patient."

On the men's side, double Olympic and triple world champion Christian Taylor of the United States won

the triple jump at 17.86 meters.

American sprinter Noah Lyles remained unbeaten in the Diamond League over 200 meters, winning in 19.65 seconds, his new personal best and the fastest time this year.

Lyles' time was also meet record, and he celebrated his victory with a back flip

at Stade Louis II.

"It was a great race, improving the meet record," Lyles said. "I did the same start as I did in Prefontaine and I could feel it, it gives me confidence in what I can do next. Now I'm going to the Birmingham Diamond League, and finally Zurich to hopefully get a win." □

Hotrod team donates brains, urges same from military members

By **EDDIE PELLIS**

MORRISON, Colo. (AP) — Concussion experts would someday like to conduct the same amount of research on head injuries among military members as they've done for football players.

One way to get there: racecar drivers.

All seven members of the world's largest hotrod team, Don Schumacher Racing, pledged their brains to concussion research Friday as part of an effort geared to reach military members as much as racing fans.

Through its sponsorship with the U.S. Army, Schumacher connected with the Infinite Hero Foundation, a non-profit that works with the

Concussion Legacy Foundation. CLF has received pledges of more than 3,500 brains to conduct post-mortem research on the effects of CTE — a disease linked to repetitive head injuries seen in football and other contact sports, and also in military personnel. Research involving military cases lags far behind that for football, hockey and other sports, in large part, experts say, because military injuries don't receive as much media attention as those in sports.

"I don't think people realize the brain impact these soldiers receive from the explosions, the IEDs, the traumas," Schumacher said.

Chris Nowinski, the CEO of

CLF, says only about 5 percent of brain donors are military members who don't also play contact sports.

"It's absolutely an urgent need," Nowinski said. "The relationship between brain trauma and mental health is an area that needs more investigation. Brain donation is really the gold standard for understanding the effects of brain trauma."

Ann McKee, a lead researcher on the impact of CTE, was part of a panel discussion with veterans Thursday, where part of the discussion involved the heart-wrenching difficulty involved in getting military families to donate their loved one's brains to research. □



In this Oct. 27, 2013, file photo, Antron Brown, right, celebrates with team owner Don Schumacher after winning in Top Fuel at the NHRA Toyota Nationals drag races at Las Vegas Motor Speedway in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

Sagan takes third win at Tour, Thomas keeps lead on Stage 13

By **JOSEPH WILSON**

Associated Press

VALENCE, France (AP) —

After most of the other top sprinters at the Tour de France succumbed in the Alps, Peter Sagan was in prime position to dominate Friday's flat finish.

Cycling's world champion did not disappoint, timing his move to reach maximum speed as he swung past two challengers to claim Stage 13 by a wheel length and take his third win of this race.

Seconds after Sagan reasserted his status as the most feared finisher left on the Tour, overall leader Geraint Thomas safely crossed in the pack along with teammate — and nearest challenger — Chris Froome.

Behind about 20 riders with a kilometer to go, Sagan charged to overtake runner-up Alexander Kristoff and Arnaud Demare, who finished third, at the finish line. Sagan's 11th career win at the world's biggest bike race came after he was the fastest to the line in bunch sprints on Stages 2 and 5.

This time, Sagan was racing against a field of sprinters greatly depleted by three grueling days in the mountains. Fernando Gaviria and Dylan Groenewegen, who both won two stages on this Tour, along with Andre Greipel all abandoned the race on Thursday, while

30-stage winner Mark Cavendish and Marcel Kittel failed to make the time cut on Wednesday.

Sagan said their absence made sprinting "messy." "It's changed," he said. "Everybody wants to do a sprint now. It's pretty messy."

Facing no attacks on the flat stage, Thomas had no trouble maintaining his advantage of 1 minute, 39 seconds over defending champion Froome.

Tom Dumoulin stayed third overall at 1:50 behind. Primož Roglic was fourth at 2:46, and Romain Bardet was fifth at 3:07 back.

After overzealous fans marred Thomas' win on Thursday atop the Alpe d'Huez, the otherwise complete calm of Friday's leg was briefly disturbed by a man on the roadside who tossed a smoke bomb into the center of the peloton as it passed by with 16 kilometers left.

Thomas said he didn't see the smoke bomb which, besides spitting out yellow fumes, appeared to do no harm.

As for the jeers directed toward him and Froome by fans skeptical of Froome's clearance from doping allegations days before the start of the Tour, he said it was part of being in the spotlight.

"I would rather be on the podium and be booed



France's Arnaud Demare, far left, hits his handlebars as Slovakia's Peter Sagan, wearing the best sprinter's green jersey, right, crosses the finish line ahead of Norway's Alexander Kristoff, second left, and Demare to win the thirteenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 169.5 kilometers (105.3 miles) with start in Bourg d'Oisans and finish in Valence, France, Friday July 20, 2018.

Associated Press

than be on the bus and have everyone cheering me," Thomas said.

Thomas did ask for fans to not interfere in the race after Froome was slapped on the back going up Alpe d'Huez and contender Vincenzo Nibali was forced to quit after he broke a vertebra when knocked to the ground by a police motorbike tasked with keeping back the crowd.

The 169.5-kilometer (105-mile) leg starting from Bourg d'Oisans at the foot of the Alpe d'Huez delayed the resolution to the burn-

ing question of this race: Is Thomas really Sky's top option while Froome seeks a fifth Tour title?

Thomas has said that although he would work to support Froome, he is not going to intentionally lose time. But with Thomas so far proving to be the stronger rider even in the mountains where Froome normally makes his mark, their team appears ready to let the road decide.

"We've got two cards to play and it's good for our strategy," Sky sports director Nicolas Portal said be-

fore Friday's stage.

"Who knows how long (Geraint) can hold this top level? Same for Froomey. The most important thing is the group is strong and we have the best position." Saturday's Stage 14 is a hilly 188-kilometer trek from Saint-Paul-Trois-Châteaux to Mende as the race makes its way to the Pyrenees Mountains.

And Froome seems eager for the action to return.

"Tomorrow we can see some good battles between the favorites," Froome said. □

Cambage breaks WNBA 2-game scoring mark with 88 points

By **The Associated Press**

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) —

Elizabeth Cambage had 35 points and 17 rebounds, breaking the WNBA's two-game scoring record, and the Dallas Wings beat the Washington Mystics 90-81 on Thursday night.

Coming off a historic 53-point performance Tuesday, Cambage broke Minnesota star Maya Moore's record two-game total of 80 points set in 2014. Cambage also became the first player with back-to-back 30-point, 10-rebound games since Moore in 2014. Kayla Thornton added 15 points, and Glory Johnson

had 13 for Dallas (14-9).

LaToya Sanders made 10 of 13 field goals and scored a career-high 25 points for Washington (13-10). Elena Delle Donne was held to nine points on 3-of-14 shooting.

DREAM 82, LIBERTY 68

ATLANTA (AP) — Renee Montgomery made a franchise-record seven 3-pointers and scored 24 points, helping Atlanta beat New York for its sixth straight victory. Montgomery was 5 of 11 from 3-point range in the first half.

The club mark was six 3-pointers in a game, done twice by Betty Lenox. Mont-

gomery broke the record with 4:14 left in the third quarter and did not attempt another shot.

Tiffany Hayes added 20 points for Atlanta (14-9). Tina Charles scored 11 points for New York (7-16) to take sole possession of second place on the franchise's scoring list with 2,981.

ACES 85, MERCURY 82

PHOENIX (AP) — Kayla McBride scored 27 points, A'ja Wilson had 18 points and 12 rebounds, and Las Vegas beat Phoenix. McBride made a steal and fast-break layup to give the Aces an 83-79 lead. □



Dallas Wings center Liz Cambage (8) drives to the basket past the defense of Washington Mystics center Krystal Thomas (34) during the first half of a WNBA basketball game Thursday, July 19, 2018, in Arlington, Texas.

Associated Press

Zuckerberg's Holocaust comment puts Facebook on the spot

By BARBARA ORTUTAY, AP
Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Denying the Holocaust happened is probably OK on Facebook. Calling for a mob to kill Jews is not.

Mark Zuckerberg's awkward and eyebrow-raising attempt this week to explain where Facebook draws the line illustrates the complexities social media platforms face as they take on the unwanted role of referee in this age of online misinformation, manipulation and hate speech.

Facebook, with 2.2 billion users, disallows such things as nudity, the selling of guns, credible threats of violence, and direct attacks on people because of their race, sex or sexual orientation.

Hours after the Facebook founder's comments about Holocaust deniers aired on Wednesday, the company announced it will also start removing misinformation that could lead to bloodshed. The policy will begin in Sri Lanka and expand to Myanmar, where Facebook users have been accused of inciting anti-Muslim violence.

But beyond those guidelines, there are large gray areas. What, exactly, quali-



In this May 1, 2018, file photo, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg makes the keynote address at F8, Facebook's developer conference in San Jose, Calif.

Associated Press

fies as supporting terrorist groups versus merely posting about them? Or mocking someone's premature death — something that is also prohibited?

If Facebook were to ban Holocaust denial, it might also be called on to prohibit the denial of other historical events, such as the Armenian genocide or the massacre of Native Americans by European colonizers. This, Facebook might argue, could lead to

a slippery slope where the company finds itself trying to verify the historical accuracy of users' posts.

So, where it can, Facebook stays out of policing content.

While thousands of Facebook moderators around the world are assigned to review potentially objectionable content, aided by artificial intelligence, executives like to say the company doesn't want to become an "arbiter of truth"

and instead tries to let users decide for themselves.

This is why fake news isn't actually banned from Facebook, though you might see less of it these days thanks to the company's algorithms and third-party fact-checking efforts. Instead, Facebook might label disputed news stories as such and show you related content that might change your mind.

YouTube recently started doing this too. Twitter has

been even more free-wheeling in what sorts of content it allows, only recently ramping up a crack-down on hate and abuse.

"Facebook doesn't want to put time and resources to policing content. It's costly and difficult," said Steve Jones a professor of communications at the University of Illinois at Chicago. "It's a difficult job, I'm sure an emotionally draining job, and given the scale of Facebook, it would take a lot of people to monitor what goes through that platform."

At the same time, Jones said he has his doubts that throwing more moderators (Facebook's goal is to increase the number from 10,000 to 20,000 this year) and more technology at the problem would make a difference. He said he has no idea how Facebook can fix things.

"If I knew," he said, "I'd probably be sitting next to Mr. Zuckerberg asking for a big fat check."

Why these companies try to stay out of regulating speech goes back to their roots. They were all founded by engineers as tech companies that shun labels such as "media" and "editor." □



In this May 16, 2012, file photo, the Facebook logo is displayed on an iPad in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Facebook said Friday that it has suspended Boston-based analytics firm Crimson Hexagon while it investigates how it collects and shares Facebook and Instagram's user data.

Facebook has been facing increased scrutiny over

how third-party firms use its data since news broke in March that data firm Cambridge Analytica improperly accessed user data.

The Wall Street Journal first reported that Facebook had suspended Crimson Hexagon.

The newspaper says

Facebook suspends Boston analytics firm over data usage

among the firm's clients is a Russian nonprofit with ties to the Kremlin.

"We don't allow developers to build surveillance tools using information from Facebook or Instagram," said Ime Archibong, Facebook's vice president of product partnerships. "We take these allegations seriously, and we have suspended these apps while we investigate."

Facebook said Friday that Crimson Hexagon is cooperating and that so far its investigation hasn't found evidence that the firm obtained Facebook or Instagram information inappro-

priately.

Crimson Hexagon says on its website it has access to over one trillion consumer conversations from social media, forums, blogs and reviews.

In a blog posting, Crimson Hexagon Chief Technology Officer Chris Bingham said the company "abides completely" by the rules social media sites including Twitter and Facebook put in place to limit the ways third-party companies can use their data.

He said the firm only collects publicly available social media data. He contrasted that with Cam-

bridge Analytica's use of private user data.

Users of Crimson Hexagon's platform, which include government customers, analyze the data to understand large-scale consumer trends and preferences, Bingham wrote.

"Government entities that leverage the Crimson Hexagon platform do so for the same reasons as many of our other non-government customers: a broad-based and aggregate understanding of the public's perception, preferences and sentiment about matters of concern to them," he wrote. □

Stocks waver, dollar slips as traders shrug off trade talk

By MARLEY JAY

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks are little changed Friday as traders shrug off the latest trade threats from President Donald Trump and focus on company earnings reports, which contained some better-than-expected results from big names including Microsoft. Bond yields are rising and the dollar is falling. **KEEPING SCORE:** The S&P 500 index fell 1 point, or 0.1 percent, to 2,802 as of 3:20 p.m. Eastern time. The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 3 points to 25,061. The Nasdaq composite fell 1 point to 7,824. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks dipped 2 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,699.

Stocks have wobbled this week as investors reacted to solid company results as well as heightened trade tensions. The S&P 500 is up less than 0.1 percent for the week, while the Russell, which is made up of more domestically-oriented companies that could hold up better in a prolonged trade dispute, is up 0.7 percent.

EARNINGS: Microsoft continued to set records after its fiscal fourth-quarter results topped Wall Street forecasts and its cloud computing division continued to grow. The company said it's being helped by its rivalry with Amazon, because some retailers are reluctant to team up with Amazon on cloud computing services while they compete with Amazon in sales. The stock climbed 1.8 percent to \$106.31.

General Electric lost 4.4 percent to \$13.13 after it said its power business continued to struggle as revenue and orders decreased. GE, which has been selling and splitting off businesses, also cut its forecast for how much cash its businesses will generate.

Elsewhere, industrial conglomerate Honeywell rose 3.7 percent to \$153.01 after it raised its forecast for the year. Uniform supplier Cintas gained 5 percent to \$203.30.



In this Oct. 24, 2017, file photo, people pass the New York Stock Exchange.

Associated Press

Shoe maker Skechers plunged after its estimates for the third quarter fell far short of analyst expectations. The company said its U.S. wholesale business and international distributor business both saw their sales drop in the last quarter. The stock sank 21 percent to \$26.29.

BONDS: Bond prices fell. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 2.89 percent from 2.85 percent. That helped banks because bond yields are used to set interest rates on many kinds of loans including mortgages. JPMorgan Chase gained 1.1 percent to \$111.11 and Bank of America picked up 1.4 percent to \$30.07.

High-dividend stocks like real estate investment trusts and utilities fell as investors shifted their money out of those stocks and into bonds.

CURRENCIES: The dollar

dropped to 111.52 yen from 112.46 yen. The euro rose to \$1.1726 from \$1.1644.

MORE TARIFF TALK: In a taped interview with the business channel CNBC, Trump said "I'm willing to go to 500," referring roughly to the \$505.5 billion in goods the U.S. imported last year from China. Earlier this month the U.S. placed import taxes on \$34 billion in goods imported from China and Beijing responded in kind. The Trump administration is considering tariffs on another \$200 billion in goods.

The dispute between the world's two largest economies stems from accusations that China steals technology from U.S. companies or forces them to hand over technology to Chinese companies as well as differences over the U.S. trade deficit with China. Investors have worried that the trade war and other

disputes involving the U.S. could slow down the global economy.

The U.S. government put tariffs on imported steel, aluminum, washing machines and solar panels this year and is considering taxing auto imports. Representatives of the auto industry asked Congress to oppose that move on Thursday.

YUAN DECLINES: The People's Bank of China weakened the country's currency against the dollar on Friday. If the yuan continues to depreciate, goods exported to China will become more expensive to consumers there.

Chinese exports would also be relatively cheaper, possibly balancing out suggested increases in tariffs by the Trump Administration. The yuan has been skidding since February, mostly because of slower economic growth in China and rising interest rates in

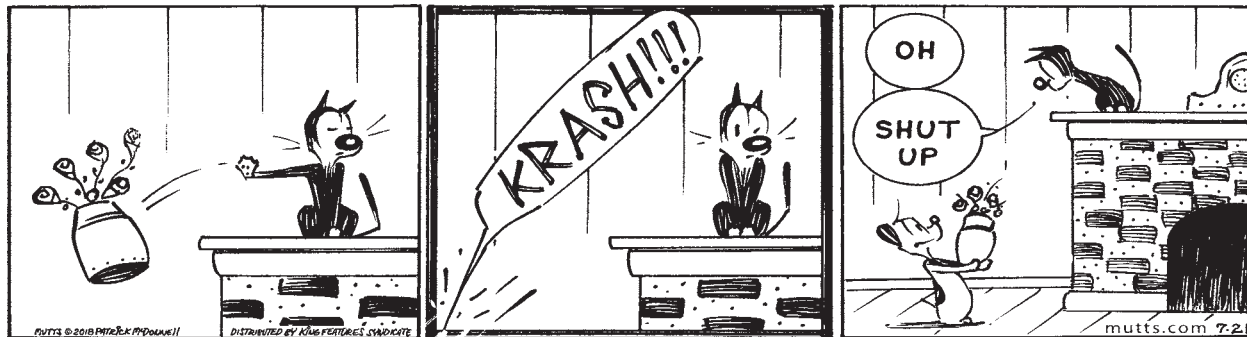
the U.S.

OIL: Benchmark U.S. crude added 1.4 percent to \$70.46 a barrel in New York and Brent crude, used to price international oils, gained 0.7 percent to \$73.07 a barrel in London. Wholesale gasoline rose 1.2 percent to \$2.07 a gallon. Heating oil edged up 0.7 percent to \$2.10 a gallon. Natural gas lost 0.4 percent to \$2.76 per 1,000 cubic feet.

METALS: Gold rose 0.6 percent to \$1,231.10 an ounce. Silver gained 1 percent to \$15.55 an ounce. Copper jumped 2.2 percent to \$2.76 a pound.

OVERSEAS: Germany's DAX lost 1 percent and France's CAC 40 slid 0.3 percent. Britain's FTSE 100 gave up 0.1 percent. South Korea's Kospi added 0.3 percent and Hong Kong's Hang Seng gained 0.8 percent. Japan's Nikkei 225 fell 0.3 percent. □

Mutts



6 Chix



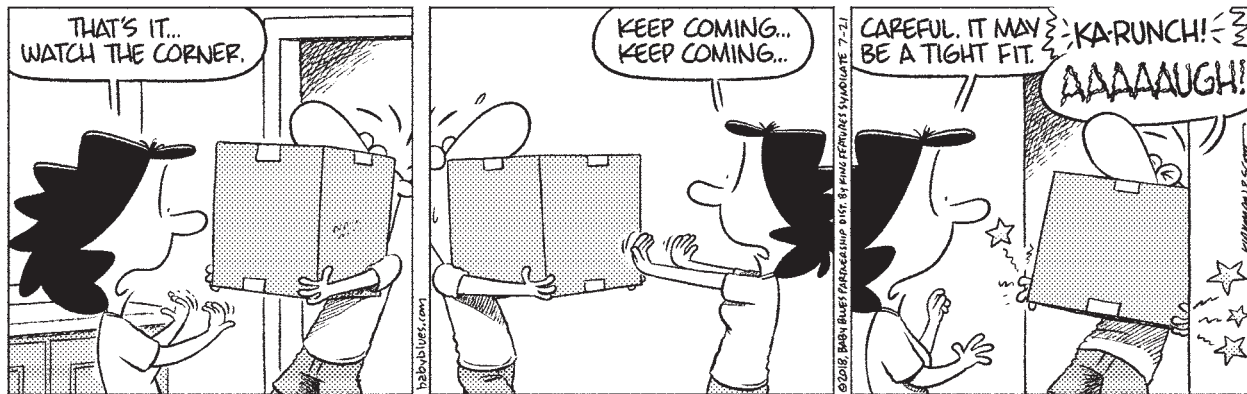
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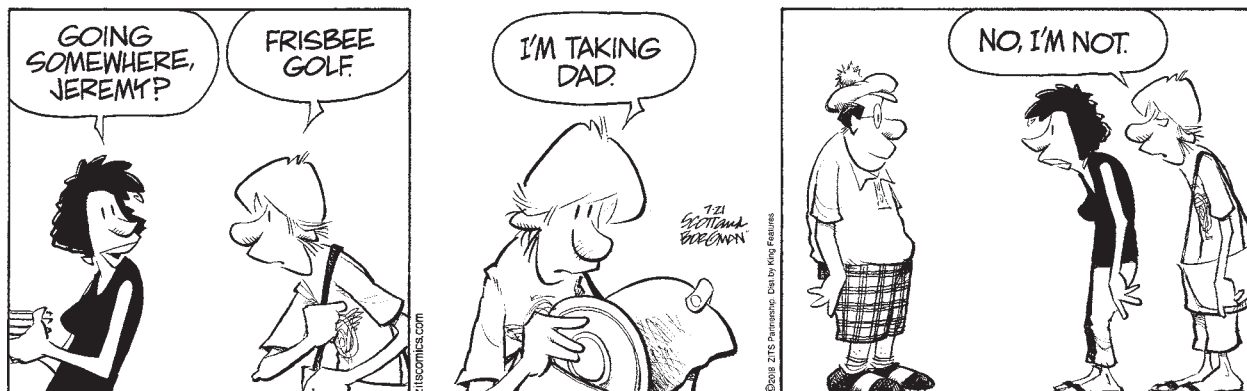
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		7	8			9		
	1			4				5
								3
3		5				2		
9	7			5		4	1	
	4				8		6	
5								
4			7				3	
	2				8	9		

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

7/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

4	6	7	8	2	5	3	1	9
2	5	9	7	1	3	8	6	4
8	3	1	9	6	4	2	5	7
7	4	3	1	5	2	6	9	8
6	1	8	3	7	9	4	2	5
9	2	5	6	4	8	7	3	1
3	7	2	5	8	1	9	4	6
5	9	6	4	3	7	1	8	2
1	8	4	2	9	6	5	7	3

ACROSS

- 1 Mr. DeLuise
- 4 Film genre
- 9 Curved overhead beam
- 13 Grows gray
- 15 Rosebush
- prickle
- 16 Blaze
- 17 "Phooey!"
- 18 Used an oar
- 19 Singer Campbell
- 20 on; speak of in more detail
- 22 Chops down
- 23 apart; disassemble
- 24 Actress Arthur
- 26 Point the finger at
- 29 Plant scientist
- 34 for; cheers on
- 35 Recluse
- 36 Morning grass moisture
- 37 Palm tree fruit
- 38 Summoned with a beeper
- 39 Actress Daly
- 40 Fall month: abbr.
- 41 Sobs
- 42 Untrue
- 43 Gershwin's "in Blue"
- 45 Deceived
- 46 Curved bone
- 47 Emcee
- 48 Long story
- 51 Influencing
- 56 Farm machine
- 57 In the of an eye; instantly
- 58 Have to have
- 60 Wise owl
- 61 Knight's spear
- 62 Fence opening
- 63 off; dozes
- 64 Finished
- 65 Trotted

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13			14		15					16			
17					18					19			
	20			21						22			
			23					24	25				
26	27	28			29	30				31	32	33	
34				35						36			
37				38						39			
40			41					42					
43			44					45					
			46					47					
48	49	50			51	52	53				54	55	
56					57					58		59	
60					61					62			
63					64					65			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/21/18

5 Task

- 6 "The Hawkeye State"
- 7 Worry
- 8 Obligated
- 9 Gift from a crocheter
- 10 Aggravate
- 11 cut; short
- hairdo
- 12 Egg producers
- 14 Law
- 21 Lowest male singing voice
- 25 Corn cob
- 26 Passion
- 27 Team leader
- 28 Terra; earthenware
- 29 One stroke over par
- 30 Dollar bills
- 31 Peaceful poem
- 32 In a; sort of
- 33 Rough woolen fabric
- 35 up; sick in bed

Friday's Puzzle Solved

G	E	E	R	A	B	B	I	C	O	M	E
J	A	V	A	A	L	I	E	N	A	W	A
O	V	E	R	V	I	E	T	N	A	M	E
Y	E	N	B	E	A	R	S	D	E	S	K
H	E	E	L	S	P	A	R				
S	H	A	D	E	S	H	O	M	A	G	E
P	A	N	D	S	R	U	I	N	S	E	L
A	N	D	Y	C	A	G	E	Y	L	O	V
T	O	E	S	O	P	H	S	B	E	G	E
I	D	L	E	R	S	C	O	A	R	S	E
O	A	K			P	A	R	K	A		
S	P	R	A	T	T	W	I	N	E	P	R
M	A	I	N	S	T	R	E	E	T	T	H
O	N	C	E		O	U	N	C	E		O
G	E	A	R		P	E	T	E	R		A

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7/21/18

DOWN

- 1 June honoree
- 2 Villain
- 3 Lunch or dinner
- 4 Risk from hardened arteries

- 38 Likely
- 39 Sampling
- 41 TV crime drama series
- 42 Clenched hand
- 44 Large shrimps
- 45 Made fun of
- 47 Therefore
- 48 Bridge
- 49 To boot
- 50 Incite
- 52 Caramel-topped custard
- 53 Discover
- 54 Within reach
- 55 kick out of; enjoy
- 59 Lion's lair

Archaeologists find ancient pottery workshop in Egypt

Associated Press
CAIRO (AP) — Archaeologists in Egypt have discovered an ancient pottery manufacturing workshop dating to more than 4,000 years ago in the southern province of Aswan, the Antiquities Ministry said Thursday. The workshop, the oldest pottery workshop in the Old Kingdom, belongs to the 4th Dynasty, spanning 2,613 to 2,494 B.C., the ministry said in a statement. The Old Kingdom is also known as the age when pyramid-building flourished. Inside the workshop, archaeologists found an ancient pottery manufacturing wheel made of a limestone turntable and a hollow base. Mostafa al-Waziri, secretary general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, says the discovery is "rare" and reveals more about the development of pottery manufacturing and the daily lives of ancient Egyptians during that time in history. Also on Thursday, archaeologists opened a large, sealed, black granite sarcophagus dating to some 2,000 years ago in the coastal city of Alexandria. The discovery, announced earlier this month, triggered speculation in local and international media about its contents. However, Al-Waziri told reporters that only skeletal remains and sewage water were found in the sarcophagus, quashing speculation that it belonged to some ancient ruler. He said the sarcophagus, weighing some 30 tons, may have belonged to a wealthy family that lived during the Ptolemaic era. Later, the Antiquities Ministry said in a statement that initial inspection suggests the the skeletal remains likely belonged to three warriors. It said the remains will undergo restoration to reveal more about them. □

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ARUBA TODAY **BONDIA**

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Bayer to stop sales of birth control device tied to injuries

By MATTHEW PERRONE and LINDSEY TANNER

WASHINGTON (AP) — The maker of a permanent contraceptive implant subject to thousands of injury reports and repeated safety restrictions by regulators said Friday that it will stop selling the device in the U.S., the only country where it remains available. Bayer said the safety of its Essure implant has not changed, but it will stop selling the device at the end of the year due to weak sales.

The German company had billed the device as the only non-surgery sterilization method for women. As complaints mounted and demand slipped, it stopped Essure sales in Canada, Europe, South America, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has placed multiple restrictions on the device following patient reports of pain, bleeding, allergic reactions and cases where the implant punctured the uterus or shifted out of place.

In May, the FDA said doctors must show women a checklist of the device's risks before implanting it. More than 16,000 U.S. women are suing Bayer over Essure.

One of them, Amanda Rusmisell, of Charlotte, North Carolina, said she's "immensely thrilled" by Bayer's action. Rusmisell said she got the device in 2008 and developed severe pain and bleeding. She took part in patient-organized rallies accusing Bayer for not disclosing potential risks and said, choking back tears, "Our very grassroots effort has worked."

Bayer received FDA approval to sell Essure in 2002



This image provided by Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals shows the birth control implant Essure. Associated Press

and promoted it as a quick and easy permanent solution to unplanned pregnancies. Essure consists of two thin-as-spaghetti nickel-titanium coils inserted into the fallopian tubes, where they spur the growth of scar tissue that blocks sperm from fertilizing a woman's eggs.

Because of the reported complaints, the FDA added its most serious warning to the device in 2016 and ordered the company to conduct a 2,000-patient study.

FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb said Friday the agency would work with Bayer to continue the study, but noted "Bayer will not be able to meet its

expected enrollment numbers" for new patients. The study was designed to follow patients for three years to better assess complications.

More than 750,000 women worldwide have received Essure. Demand has declined in recent years and plunged 70 percent after the 2016 boxed warning, the FDA said.

Gottlieb said the FDA will continue to monitor adverse events reported to its database after Essure is removed from the market.

"I also want to reassure women who've been using Essure successfully to prevent pregnancy that they can continue to do so," he said. Those who think it's

causing problems, such as persistent pain, should consult with their doctors, Gottlieb added.

Essure's original label warned that the device's nickel can result in allergic reactions. Its current labeling lists hives, rash, swelling and itching as possible reactions.

But many women have attributed other problems to the implant, including mood disorders, weight gain, hair loss and headaches. Those problems are listed in the current FDA labeling for the device, with the qualifier: "It is unknown if these symptoms are related to Essure or other causes."

Informational material Bay-

er supplied to doctors and patients lists potential problems and says the devices are meant to be permanent. It also says removal may require complicated surgery, including a hysterectomy, that might not be covered by insurance.

Gottlieb noted that device removal "has its own risks."

Diana Zuckerman, president of the nonprofit National Center for Health Research, said Essure is among medical devices approved without "clear evidence of safety or effectiveness."

"As a result, when thousands of women reported serious complications from Essure, there was no unbiased long-term research to refute or confirm those reports," Zuckerman said. "If patients had been listened to when the first clinical trials were conducted on Essure, better research would have been conducted to determine exactly how safe and effective Essure is."

Dr. Kristyn Brandi, a Los Angeles family planning specialist, called Bayer's move disappointing. She says most of her Essure patients have been satisfied.

"I would hope Bayer would use this opportunity to think about future research and product development," Brandi said. "Being able to offer women contraception that's permanent without surgery is a really great option."

Bayer spokeswoman Courtney Mallon said the company had no plans to re-design the device.

Kate Nicholson, of Dallas, got an Essure implant last year after she and her husband decided not to have children. She said she sympathizes with women who have had problems but said ending Essure sales is the wrong move.

"Pulling it from the market is yet another way to limit our choices about our own bodies," Nicholson said. "I personally always had horrible experiences with different versions of 'the pill,' but it's still on the market and many women swear by it." □

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With singer Mary Gauthier, military veterans find a voice

By MESFIN FEKADU

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — There's a date on Josh Geartz's calendar that the former U.S. Army sergeant has been looking forward to for quite some time.

Aug. 10 will mark Geartz's fourth retreat with the nonprofit SongwritingWith:Soldiers — his first session there in 2015 saved his life. Literally.

"I'd already attempted suicide twice," the 38-year-old said, "both times were more of a reaction and wasn't a planned thing. It was more in the moment, like, 'All right, screw this.' So I was like, 'Third time's a charm. I'm going to get it right this time.' I had my plan. I knew when, where, how."

His wife had told him about a SongwritingWith:Soldiers session coming up in a month near their home in Albany. The wheelchair-bound Geartz, who was in the army from 1999 to 2004 and served in Iraq and Kosovo, eventually decided to go. There, he met folk singer-songwriter Mary Gauthier. He credits her with changing and saving his life.

"I think that once you get to that point where you truly believe that people are better off without you, you're at your lowest. And then I think some of that started to change a bit when I told Mary everything. I told her stuff that I didn't tell anyone, nobody knew, and she just basically gave me a hug and said, 'Man that sucks, but I'm really glad you're here.' And I'm just like, 'Whoa,'" he recalled.

"I've had therapists break down and cry in the middle of sessions and leave the room. So I'm expecting something like that. Instead I got support."

Geartz's experience has been repeated by other veterans, who have found peace and newfound hope with the program and Gauthier, who released an album this year exclusively featuring songs co-written with veterans and their family members from sessions with the nonprofit or-



In this Feb. 8, 2018 photo, musician Mary Gauthier poses for a portrait in New York to promote her veteran inspired record "Rifles & Rosary Beads."

Associated Press

ganization.

"Rifles & Rosary Beads," the critically acclaimed 11-song project, recently earned a nomination for album of the year at the 2018 Americana Music Honors & Awards, to be held Sept. 12 in Nashville, Tennessee.

"One of the beautiful things about the way that it works is that the songwriters are not therapists. So we don't have a duty to not cry or to assess them. You know, we're just songwriters, so I can cry if I need to, and I do cry. We all cry, and we cry together," Gauthier said.

"With any trauma, it's inef-fable at its core, you can't find the words, there are no

words. Music can come in and fill the gap where there are no words. So I can find the music, and all the song-writers can find the music that sounds like what the feeling is and that conveys the feelings."

Gauthier wants to be clear — though she knows the process has helped veterans — she, too, has learned so much while listening to their stories and turning them into songs.

"I think that's important it's not couched as if I'm doing this Mother Teresa thing. It doesn't work that way," the 56-year-old said with a laugh. "I'm getting every bit as much as I give. Soldiers have taught me so much.

They've taught me humil-ity. They've taught me ser-vice, at a very deep level, sacrifice. They've taught me consistency. They've taught me about love."

Gauthier had worked with SongwritingWith:Soldiers for over four years, complet-ing close to 15 sessions and writing roughly 40 songs.

"I think we have a lot of sto-ries about soldiers, or about war. I don't know if it's ever been done before where it's done with them, so that these are their words," she said. "And somewhere in the process the veteran starts to see, 'Oh my God, this story might help other people. To tell it might be a continuation of my service.'

And they're into that. They want to continue to be of service."

Geartz has seen the effect the song he co-wrote, "Still On the Ride," has had on others when he performed the song with Gauthier at the Grand Ole Opry and Ryman Auditorium in Nash-ville (he plays harmonica on the track).

"I had a female come up to me after one of our shows, she goes, 'Can I give you a hug? I just want to thank you.

I haven't been able to show any emotion for years and I was able to cry tonight,'" he recalled.

"And then I had a lady call me and say listening to the four-minute song answered 50 years of questions she had about her father," he added. "It kind of gave me a purpose and a mission to support and promote this organization that helped save my life."

Geartz, who was wounded by an improvised explosive device in 2003, lugged his wheelchair for 422 miles last summer for veteran suicide awareness. The fa-ther of two will return as a volunteer to the upcoming SongwritingWith:Soldiers event, giving a helping hand to veterans in the way others assisted him. Song-writer Georgia Middleman will help craft songs and the retreat also includes sessions on cooking, yoga and videography. Geartz will teach a class on the harmonica, which he has played since was 7.

"It's like a big family reunion — one of the family re-unions you want to go to," Geartz said.

For Gauthier, the process "feels like my passion has collided with purpose."

"I am very, very lucky to have been given this op-portunity to midwife these songs and then to be the one to bring them into the world. I feel a sense of right-ness about it, that I have mined myself thoroughly. I've said what I need to say about me. And the next right thing for me as an art-ist, clearly, is to help give voice to other people's story." □

Big move for Big Bird: Sesame Street is entering classrooms

By SALLY HO

SEATTLE (AP) — Sesame Street is taking its beloved, critically acclaimed brand of educational television into the highly profitable world of classroom curriculum — a move that experts say could open the door for other companies to move into the sensitive learning space with possible influence on children.

Sesame Workshop, the company behind Big Bird and Elmo, and McGraw-Hill Education, a billion-dollar for-profit company known for school textbooks, announced their partnership Thursday. Both declined to disclose the financial terms for their new line of classroom instructional materials.

"Sesame Workshop probably can be trusted to do this in an ethical way, but the door opens for other companies to do it in a less



In this Feb. 10, 2010 photo, characters from Sesame Street Live celebrate the 30th anniversary of the live touring stage shows based on the PBS television series.

Associated Press

ethical way," said Heather Kirkorian, a University of Wisconsin professor who studies the effects of media in young children.

The TV program and Sesame Workshop's other educational pursuits have long been lauded for their re-

cord of helping kids learn, portraying diverse characters and offering sensitivity in addressing childhood experiences.

The new classroom materials include videos featuring social-emotional and literacy lessons delivered by

its famous characters and meant to be used at "circle time," when young children typically gather to sing songs or hear stories. They also are offering resources for teachers and parents to help reinforce the lessons. The instructional materials are on the market for children in preschool through fifth grade, and they are expected to be used in classrooms as early as fall 2019. Educators now have access to review the materials, but they haven't been piloted in a classroom yet. They must be approved by school principals and administrators.

Dr. David Hill of the American Academy of Pediatrics, which urges parents to be cautious and selective about screen time for children, said that by age 3, kids can learn from a limited viewing of high-quality TV programs like Sesame

Street but that little research exists on such regular media use in the classroom.

Hill, a pediatrician, said a young child's brain cannot distinguish between programming and advertising, which could raise questions about the precedent that Sesame Street is setting.

"When you introduce a commercial influence on a nonprofit endeavor, I think everyone naturally has some concerns about the tension that ensues," Hill said.

Sesame Workshop is a nonprofit and would have to invest its revenue back into its educational mission.

"With a proven whole-child curriculum that serves as a framework for everything we do, Sesame Workshop has put children first for nearly fifty years," said Aki-mi Gibson, company vice president. □

Rapper Common goes back to school to help teachers

By JOHN CARUCCI

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Rapper

Common has won three Grammys, a Golden Globe and an Academy Award

but a recent visit to a New York City school was "humbling" — mainly because

While Common has a diverse fan base, it probably doesn't include many

said.

According to Adopt-A-Classroom, 96 percent of teachers nationwide bear the cost each year to equip their classrooms with the basic materials students need to learn. The organization estimates that teachers spend more than \$700 out of their own pocket each year. The program provides funds for teachers to purchase school supplies.

After addressing the students in the school's gymnasium, Common went upstairs to visit a classroom. He shared his love of writing, and even recited the lyrics to his acclaimed hit, "Black America Again."

"When I saw the kids I really was just trying to let them know we were here because we care and that we value them and that they have the world at their hands," he said.

For the second year in a row, Adopt-A-Classroom has partnered with Burlington Stores. Shoppers can make a \$1 donation to the organization at checkout through Aug. 18. □



In this Feb. 5, 2018 file photo, Common arrives at the 90th Academy Awards Nominees Luncheon in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

many of the students were too young to know his music.

The award-winner showed up at P.S. 111 in midtown Manhattan on Thursday as an ambassador for the Adopt-A-Classroom initiative. He made the surprise appearance with his mother, Dr. Mahalia Hines, to present the school with a \$10,000 check.

fourth and fifth graders. He joked about their reaction when he was introduced.

"The kids they were looking like, 'Who is this dude? We don't know him.' But I'm still just here to connect with children, and connect with the people and our teachers. So, I felt that it was more fun. It is humbling, but it is fun to try and get them to pay attention," Common

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Smithsonian gallery explores diversity in US lynchings

By LUIS ALONSO LUGO

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery acknowledges that people of color have long been missing in the works it exhibits.

Now the museum is tackling the issue in an unusual way.

The Portrait Gallery is currently showing about 20 works by Los Angeles-based artist Ken Gonzales-Day that examine lynchings, mostly in the American West, and probe the history of racial violence in the United States.

"Latinos were a very small number" of those lynched in the U.S, Gonzales-Day told The Associated Press during a recent interview at the Portrait Gallery. "Native Americans, Chinese, even smaller numbers."

"But when you think of it as a spectrum of racialized violence, then we can see it is part of a continuing (history) in the United States that dates back to its founding," he said.

Equal Justice Initiative, an Alabama-based non-prof-



A visitor looks at prints by artist Ken Gonzales-Day, who is currently exhibiting his 2006 series "Erased Lynchings" at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery in Washington.

Associated Press

it, documented more than 4,400 lynchings of black people in the United States between 1877 and 1950.

Gonzales-Day published a book in 2006 in which he verified 354 cases of lynchings in California between 1850 and 1935. Of those, 140 were Latinos — the largest group — while minorities made up two-thirds

of the total.

To avoid re-victimizing those who were killed or causing pain to their families, Gonzales-Day's works remove the body and the rope from each image. His ultimate goal is to spotlight racial violence in the U.S. in a broad sense.

"Traditionally, when people talk about the Wild West,

they say, 'Yes, there were some instances of Latinos being lynched, but they were all bad guys.' My project was (to) prove that race was a factor," he said. Gonzales-Day sees a continuation of racially motivated violence today, citing the recent separations of migrant children from their parents at the south-

ern U.S. border as an example. He hopes his audience thinks of current issues when looking at his work.

"The question is empathy. Can you empathize with another person who is not like yourself, with a different cultural background, with a different language?" he asked. "This challenge of empathy is our nation's challenge." "UnSeen: Our Past in a New Light" also includes 17 paintings and one sculpture by artist Titus Kaphar, who recreates well-known paintings to include those traditionally left out by smearing tar, erasing with white paint and shredding canvas into strips. "This exhibition talks about those absent histories, and about the many ways in which systems have been set in society to say the white Anglo person is worth more than the African-American, or the Native American or the Latino," the museum's Curator of Latino Art and History, Taina Caragol, told the AP.

The exhibition runs through January. □

Widower wins court battle for estate of 'Thorn Birds' author

Associated Press

SYDNEY (AP) — An Australian judge ruled on Friday that best-selling author Colleen McCullough's widower was the sole beneficiary of her estate following a bitter court wrangle.

The author of the novel "The Thorn Birds," which sold 33 million copies worldwide, died on Norfolk Island in 2015 aged 77.

Her husband of 32 years, Ric Robinson, had been battling the executor of the author's estate and close friend, Selwa Anthony, in the New South Wales state Supreme Court over who was entitled to her 2.1 million Australian dollar (\$1.5 million) estate.

McCullough wrote a will in 2014 leaving everything to The University of Oklahoma Foundation, of which she was a founding board member. Anthony alleged Robinson took advantage of his wife's ill health to



In this March 1, 1977, file photo, Australian author Colleen McCullough laughs during a news conference in New York.

Associated Press

change her will in October 2014, leaving him everything, before her death four months later.

Anthony maintained the foundation was the rightful beneficiary according

to the earlier will signed in Sydney, around the time McCullough said she had "kicked Ric out for good" because he had a mistress. Justice Nigel Rein on Friday found McCullough had in-

tended to bequeath her entire estate to Robinson. He found the foundation will was later revoked following the couple's reconciliation, when McCullough signed or initialed documents leaving everything to her husband.

"The plaintiff has not established that Mr. Robinson had coerced Dr. McCullough into signing those documents," Rein said in a written judgment.

Robinson had testified in court in May that he had not bullied his wife into leaving him her fortune, threatened or hurt her. He said his wife had suggested he take a mistress, and he had told her of his affair in 2010.

"The island is too small to keep any secrets," Robinson said in his evidence. The court had heard the couple had financial as well as marital problems. Anthony told the court she

had been sad to hear McCullough had reconciled with her husband after their brief separation, because "that wasn't what she really wanted to do."

The author had explained that she could not afford a night carer and Robinson needed her money, Anthony told the court.

Neither Robinson nor Anthony attended the Sydney court on Friday to hear the verdict. Robison's lawyer John Brown told reporters: "He is pleased that his and Colleen's reputations have been restored and he is grateful to all those who have supported him."

McCullough had continued producing books despite a string of health and eyesight problems by using dictation. She wrote 25 novels throughout her career. Her final book "Bittersweet" was released in 2013. Her first novel "Tim" was published in 1974. □

Hawaii town hopes lava tourism will bring economic relief

By **AUDREY McAVOY**

Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — Stunning images of Hawaii's erupting Kilauea volcano have captivated people around the world. But ironically it's nearly impossible for residents and visitors on the ground to see the lava — a fact that's squeezing the tourism-dependent local economy.

Big Island businesses are calling for a lava viewing site, but authorities say they're finding it difficult to set one up while keeping people safe.

The risks posed by the volcano came into sharp focus this week when lava flowing into the ocean triggered an explosion that sent a hot rock the size of a basketball crashing through a tour boat's roof. One woman broke her leg, while nearly two dozen others suffered minor burns and scrapes.

Diane Ley, Hawaii County's director of research and development, said she's been working on setting up a lava viewing site for nearly two months, consulting with federal scientists and the county's civil defense administrator. The injuries from the tour boat only validate the county's caution, she said.

"That's a challenge — to find us a site that is safe from volcanic hazards, emissions and can afford the ability for large numbers to be able to come in and view," she said.

Still, pressures are mounting from merchants, tour guides and others on the



In this May 19, 2018, file photo released by the U.S. Geological Survey, lava flows from fissures near Pahoa, Hawaii.

island, where tourism has dropped since Kilauea began erupting in a residential neighborhood and burning down homes in May.

Downtown Pahoa, which is just a few miles from where the volcano is pumping a river of molten rock into the ocean, has been hit particularly hard. The small, rural town serves as a gateway to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, which is normally the state's most popular tourist attraction but has closed indefinitely because of dangers to visitors and staff.

As recently as April, travelers could watch molten rock in the park's lava lake and hike to remote spots to see flowing lava.

State Sen. Russell Ruderman said the county needs to urgently set up a lava

viewing site to bring visitors back to Pahoa.

"Our town is dying very, very fast and very, very dramatically," said Ruderman, who owns a natural foods store in Pahoa. "It's needless because if we could get the word out that our town is open for business, we could still save it."

Currently, only helicopter and boat-tour passengers — paying about \$250 each — are able to see the lava in person.

The area where lava is bursting from the ground is under a mandatory evacuation order. Residents nearby may go to their homes, but the county restricts access for everyone else except scientists, authorities like the National Guard and a handful of escorted media.

Officials have cracked down on violators, issuing citations to more than 80 people for loitering in a restricted disaster area.

Kilauea, which has been erupting continuously for 35 years, has long attracted travelers. About 5,000 people a day descended on an official county lava viewing spot in May 1990 as molten rock slowly consumed the town of Kalapana, the Honolulu Advertiser reported. That's even though the spot offered views of cooled, not flowing, lava. County workers

set aside some newly hardened rocks for tourists to touch as consolation.

Ley noted Kilauea is behaving differently than in the past, when lava flowed from a different spot and through uninhabited land. It also is producing more lava — erupting as much as 3,500 cubic feet (100 cubic meters) per second now compared with about 141 cubic feet (4 cubic meters) two years ago.

She doesn't know when the county will be ready but envisions a viewing site where tour buses could go and not private cars. The county may select several sites and open them as conditions allow, she said.

John Tarson, owner of Epic Lava Tours, said the current restrictions are crushing him.

"They've effectively cut my business' legs off. And there's nothing that can be done to save it unless they reopen the tourism industry, unless they stop criminalizing people for wanting to see lava," Tarson said.

He argues guides like himself have years of experience and can continue to take tourists to see lava safely. Instead, his customers are cancelling reservations into the new year because they don't believe they'll be allowed to see molten rock.

Restaurants and shops in Pahoa have lost 50 percent to 90 percent of their business, said Matthew Purvis, president of the Mainstreet Pahoa Association. This is partly because many residents have lost their homes and moved, but a significant chunk is because fewer tourists are visiting. The worst-hit are those that cater to travelers, like gift shops. Purvis' own place, the Tin Shack Bakery, has lost about half its business, he said.

Hawaii County Councilwoman Eileen O'Hara said the county should contract several tour companies to operate shuttle buses from the center of Pahoa town to Leilani Estates, where lava is coming up through the ground. She said the bus could circle around to let passengers take photos but keep them inside, protected from any volcanic gases.

"It's really important they consider doing this as quickly as possible," O'Hara said. □



In this long exposure photo taken Tuesday July 3, 2018, the night sky is illuminated by a lava eruption in Pahoa, Hawaii.

Associated Press



In this May 15, 2018 file photo, offerings sit on a sign welcoming people to Pahoa, Hawaii.

Associated Press